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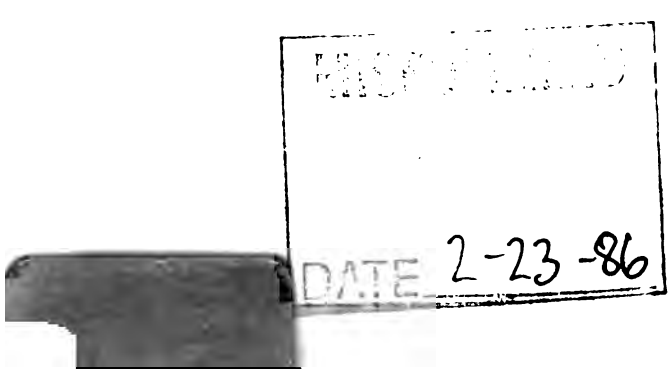
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HARRY CHICORIKOS
ΧΑΡΡΥ Ν. ΤΣΙΚΟΥΡΙΚΑΣ
ΓΕΝΟΜΕΙΣ ΕΝ ΓΟΥΙΛΙΝΚ
WEST VIRGINIA.
ΕΚ ΓΟΝΕΩΝ ΜΙΚΡΑΣΙΑΤΩΝ
ΓΕΡΕΝΚΙΟ, Η ΙΝΤΕΠΕ
ΔΑΡΔΑΝΕΛΙΑ

TRAVELS

IN

GREECE AND TURKEY,

UNDERTAKEN

BY ORDER OF LOUIS XVI.

AND

WITH THE AUTHORITY OF THE OTTOMAN COURT;

BY

C. S. SONNINI,

MEMBER OF SEVERAL SCIENTIFIC AND LITERARY SOCIETIES,
OF THE SOCIETIES OF AGRICULTURE OF PARIS,
AND OF THE OBSERVERS OF MEN.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

Illustrated by Engravings,

AND

A MAP OF THOSE COUNTRIES.

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH.

VOL. II.

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HOR.

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ERRATA.

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☞ Many of the following being typographical errors that may affect the ſenſe, the Reader is requeſted to mark them with a pen or pencil, before he enters on the work.

Page 20 Line 1. *for* the evening, *read* in the evening
61 — 6, *for* appendage *read* appanage
102 — 15, *for* are *read* is
110 — 8, *for* kemina *read* hemina
147 — 25, *for* the worms *read* worms
167 — 8, *for* hawks *read* ſparrow-hawks
173 — 9, *for* Maine *read* Maina
179 — 17, *dele* but
205 — 1, *for* the ſhielded pleuronectes *read* the turbot
212 — 20, *for* phoſphira *read* proſphira
258 — 17, *for* there *read* here
311 — 8, *for* appendage *read* appanage
328 — 4, *dele* dry
343 — 28, *for* graſshoppers *read* locuſts
344 — 9, *for* graſshoppers *read* locuſts
364 — 25, *for* ſhared *read* partook.

TRAVELS

IN

GREECE AND TURKEY.

CHAPTER XXIII.

Departure from Canea.—*Currents.*—*Winter-ſeaſon in the* Archipelago.—*Hollow agitation of the waters of the ſea.*—*Storm.*—*Arrival at* Argentiera.—*Roadſtead of* Argentiera.—*Singular direction of the currents.*—San Nicolo.—*Malteſe privateer.*—*Turkiſh ſhip of war.*—*A French veſſel, loaded with the equipages of* Iſmael *Bey, is wrecked.*—*Officers of the* Porte *ſent on this occaſion.*—*Their manner of exerciſing juſtice.*—French *agent at* Argentiera.—*His old ſervices.*—*The injuſtice which he experienced.*—*His influence in the* Levant.

THE Provençal polacre which had brought me from ALEXANDRIA to CANEA, in my ſecond viſit to the Iſland of CANDIA, had there left her cargo. The activity of the

caravane, that is to ſay, of the carrying-trade from one port to another, was ſo great in the ſeas of TURKEY; the circulation of merchandiſe was ſo rapid, that, in leſs than a month, the veſſel in which I had arrived, had taken in a freſh cargo for SMYRNA; and, on the 30th of November, 1778, the day on which ſhe ſet ſail from the harbour of CANEA, ſhe had been waiting a week for a favourable wind, in order to proceed to her new deſtination.

I again availed myſelf of this veſſel to croſs the ſmall ſpace of ſea, which ſeparates the Iſle of CANDIA from the firſt iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO. Though this is a run of no more than about twenty-five or thirty hours, and the winds had not thwarted us, we were three days on our paſſage. Indeed, we met with ſome ſudden and violent ſqualls; but, as they did not throw us out of our courſe, we could not attribute to them the ſlowneſs of our progreſs. It was occaſioned by the currents which ſet to the ſouthward with ſo much rapidity, that, the day after our departure from CANEA, we reckoned ourſelves at no more than ſix leagues from the Iſle of MILO, whereas, in reality, we were ſtill diſtant from it upwards of fifteen.

The

The winter was beginning to be felt in this part of the ſeas of the LEVANT, not by hoar-froſts, but by impetuous winds; and this bad ſeaſon, in which navigation is more rough and dangerous, in the midſt of a labyrinth of iſlands and ſhoals, does not laſt three months: it is, in general, reckoned only from the middle of December to the middle of February. In 1778, it took place much ſooner. As early as the cloſe of November, the atmoſphere was loaded with big clouds, driven by violent winds, and the ſky was covered with the black and ſiniſter appearance of a tempeſt. This gloomy anticipation of ſtorms foreboded a remarkable variation in the temperature; the winter of this year was, indeed, a very ſhort one, but very cold, and covered with ſnow and ice both lands and plants, unaccuſtomed to loſe their gentle warmth and their verdure.

Although the wind was faint, the ſky ſerene, and the ſurface of the ſea ſlightly furrowed by waves, when we came out of the harbour of CANEA, we felt the ſhip ſhake below, in an extraordinary manner; and theſe movements, which were communicated only from the bottom of the veſſel, indicated a hollow and internal agitation, a

certain preſage of an approaching riſing of the waves.

A furious gale of wind from the ſouth-weſt aſſailed us at the entrance of the roadſtead of ARGENTIERA. I never ſaw the horizon ſo darkened: the the day was hidden: although the ſun had ſcarcely reached the half of his courſe, night ſeemed to have ſpread her black and mournful wings over the earth; and this darkneſs appeared ſtill more profound from the vivid brightneſs of the repeated flaſhes of lightning which clove the ſkies; thunder burſt on all ſides; we had diſappeared to the eyes of the inhabitants of ARGENTIERA; and their iſland, which we were on the point of touching, was concealed in a ſhade impenetrable to the moſt piercing ſight. The danger became imminent, and the faint-heartedneſs of the captain ſtill increaſed it: in his diſtreſs, he vented his murmurs againſt me, who had induced him to enter a channel ſo narrow as that in which we were, and which he would have avoided, had I not wiſhed to be landed at ARGENTIERA. Fortunately, the ſea could not riſe in this confined ſpace, and we ſucceeded in caſting anchor under ſhelter of the iſland. This is the place the moſt frequented by ſhips which navigate in the

the ARCHIPELAGO. Situated at the entrance of that multitude of iſlands, it affords to navigators an anchorage the more convenient, as it is open on all ſides, and no wind can prevent them from leaving it at pleaſure. They likewiſe find there pilots accuſtomed to conduct ſhips in the midſt of lands and rocks, ſeparated by a number of winding channels, and affording little ſpace to traverſe.

This road of ARGENTIERA is formed by the Iſle of MILO to the ſouth weſt, by that of ARGENTIERA to the north, and by the ſmall Iſlands of SAN GEORGIO and of POLIVO to the eaſt. Trading veſſels anchor between the Iſlands of ARGENTIERA and SAN GEORGIO, but nearer to the former, to which they commonly carry out a hawſer to ſerve as moorings. In this poſition, where veſſels are ſheltered from the wind and the ſea from the north, as much as it is poſſible to be in this road, they lie quite cloſe to the foot of a high mountain which conceals the view of the village, and no trace of habitation or culture is there to be diſcovered.

But this anchorage has not a ſufficient depth of water for ſhips of war and large veſſels; they come to more to the north, or to the north-eaſt, in a channel near POLIVO.

A remark which, at firſt ſight, appears very extraordinary, is, that in the place where large veſſels caſt anchor, and where the currents run frequently with great rapidity, the direction of theſe currents is often contrary to that of the wind; that is to ſay, that the waters run to the north, when the wind blows from that point, and that they ſet to the ſouth, when the ſouth wind prevails. Their violence even is in proportion to that of the winds, and ſo impetuous, that it has happened more than once that a frigate, with her mizen-topſail, maintopſail, and foreſail looſe, could not keep head to wind, but remained riding athwart.

This ſpecies of phenomenon, aſtoniſhing in the eyes of navigators little accuſtomed to obſervation, is the effect of the eddy or current doubled, which cauſes the waters to take a courſe contrary to their general direction. The more violently they are impelled by the winds, the more evident is this effect, and the more muſt it be felt by ſhips which are expoſed to it.

A ſmall cove below the village of ARGENTIERA, and at nearly half the length of the channel, is fit only for the reception of the boats of the country, and, indeed, they are not

not there in ſafety. When they have a rather long ſtay to make on the coaſt of the iſland, they proceed more to the northward, to a cove where they are perfectly ſheltered. This narrow harbour, which is ſuitable only to very ſmall veſſels, is called *San Nicole*, from the name of a little chapel dedicated to St. Nicholas, in whom the Greeks have great confidence. This chapel is the only building on that coaſt; all there is rock and deſert.

There was, on my arrival in the little cove of Argentiera, a Malteſe felucca, forming a part of an armament which had ſailed from Malta, and was commanded by a Frenchman named Coral. The crew of this felucca conſiſted only of fourteen hands. Of all privateer's-men, this captain was certainly the greateſt knave. He was a Sclavonian, extraordinarily brave, but ſtill a greater drunkard, and at the ſame time a plunderer extremely dreaded. He had long followed this trade, and long been known in the Archipelago, where he had rendered himſelf formidable, and had even had the audacity to ſettle, having married a Greek woman belonging to Myconi. A Greek, brother to a drogueman of the Porte, com-

manded there; the Sclavonian had ſome difference with him, and ended by giving him a ſound drubbing. After this violent proceeding, he rightly judged that it was not poſſible for him to remain in an iſland governed by a powerful man, whom he had ſo outrageouſly treated: he retired to a neighbouring iſland. But, the Greek having preferred his complaint to the Captain-Pacha, four *tſchavouſchs*, or police-officers of the PORTE, were ſent thither with orders to the Greeks to give their utmoſt aſſiſtance in ſeizing the Sclavonian. The latter reſided in a ſmall village diſtant from the ſea: led by ſome buſineſs, he was on his way to the harbour, when the *tſchavouſchs* arrived there; he had no ſuſpicion, but was walking along in his uſual manner, armed at all points. The police-officers had taken with them twenty Greeks, and, in order to ſurpriſe the impetuous foreigner, were advancing with precipitation towards the place where he dwelt, when they met him. He was not diſconcerted; and, conceiving, from the ſight of this party, that he was the man on whom they had a deſign, he threw off his cloak, and with his ſabre in one hand, and a piſtol in the other, he fell, ſwearing at the ſame time,

time, on the undiſciplined band, and put it to the rout. Turks and Greeks, all took to their heels; it was who could get away the quickeſt. As for the Sclavonian, ſatisfied with having got rid of a troubleſome and daſtardly gang, and with having deprived them of any wiſh to return to the charge, he quietly continued his way. However, he was ſenſible that he could no longer remain in ſafety in a country where he would not fail to be overwhelmed by numbers, and delivered up to the vengeance of the Turks; he quitted his wife and his dwelling, and returned to MALTA, there to reſume his old profeſſion of free-booter.

Anxious to have a near view of ſo paltry an armed veſſel as the felucca commanded by this Sclavonian, I repaired on board. I was there offered a very nice collation of dried and preſerved fruits, and excellent CYPRUS wine, which had not coſt much to thoſe who piqued themſelves on it. I was extremely aſtoniſhed that a veſſel, fit at moſt for a ſummer carrying-trade in the ARCHIPELAGO, could have arrived there from MALTA, and ſailed in the open ſea. Upwards of a month had elapſed ſince this little felucca had ſeparated from the Commodore's ſhip,

and

and it was ſuſpected that the ſeparation had been concerted among the people, to whom was imputed the deſign of appropriating to their own uſe a ſum of four hundred thouſand livres which they had on board, and which accrued from their depredations. But they were not agreed among themſelves as to the means of ſecuring the poſſeſſion and the diviſion of riches ſo ill acquired. The greater part of the crew miſtruſted the captain, and were apprehenſive that his connexions in theſe parts, his boldneſs, and his diſhoneſty, would induce him to carry off the ſum, and thus deprive of it his companions in danger and rapine. On the other hand, they all dreaded to expoſe themſelves, in the winter time, to proceed to MALTA in ſo frail a veſſel. There occurred, in my preſence, a very animated diſcuſſion on the ſubject; the reſult was, that the commander would make arrangements with the French captain of the polacre on board of which I had arrived, to convey to MALTA the privateer's-men and their booty; and I was requeſted to apprize the latter of a project which could not but be agreeable to him.

The very next day, the time fixed for ſettling about the freight, the Sclavonian repaired

repaired on board the polacre. He dined there, and this interview gave riſe to ſome pleaſant ſcenes, from the contraſt afforded by the character of the two captains. The Frenchman, a mild and well-behaved man, had beſides, a conſiderable ſhare of devotion; the oaths and imprecations of the captain of the privateer affected him ſtrangely; and he was on the point of ſigning his name, when, having obſerved to the Sclavonian that he ought to think of the ſalvation of his ſoul, the only anſwer he received to this pious remonſtrance, was the brutal aſſertion that that was uſeleſs, becauſe it was not poſſible that the Almighty could pay any attention to raſcals like himſelf.

At laſt, after a long altercation, the price of the conveyance to MALTA was ſettled at twelve hundred dollars; the privateer's-man requeſted to return on board his felucca, in order, as he ſaid, to fetch that ſum, and pay it inſtantly; but we ſaw no more of him; and, after having, no doubt, deceived his people as to the pretended impoſſibility of coming to any agreement, he immediately ſet ſail, and ſaluted us by the diſcharge of a ſwivel, on paſſing us at ſome diſtance.

A few days after, Captain CORAL, the

commander of the expedition, came into the road of ARGENTIERA with a ſmall frigate. He was in ſearch of his felucca, but we were unable to tell him what was become of her. According to every appearance, the little treaſure which ſhe had on board had been carried off by the Sclavonian, or ſwallowed up with him in the waves. The next day but one after the arrival of this frigate, there aroſe a terrible gale from the north, which forced a Turkiſh ſhip of war to take ſhelter in the ſame roadſtead. The wind was ſo violent, that, at the very moment when this ſhip anchored, her maſts were cut away, in order to avoid dragging her anchors, and being daſhed to pieces on the coaſt. The firſt danger being over, the Turks perceiving that they were near an enemy's frigate, were preparing to jump overboard, and ſwim on ſhore; But the ſame panic, which had taken poſſeſſion of the Turkiſh crew, reigned on board the Malteſe privateer; and, through an inconceivable reſolution, CORAL cut his cables, and fled with precipitation. Had he taken the ſmalleſt ſtep for approaching the diſmaſted ſhip, he would have made himſelf maſter of her without experiencing the ſlighteſt reſiſtance.

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The ſame ſtorm proved fatal to a French veſſel, having on board part of the ſuite and equipage of ISMAEL, a Bey of EGYPT, who, after having driven MURAD Bey from CAIRO, had, in his turn, been diſlodged from that city, and baniſhed to SYRIA, whence he was repairing to CONSTANTINOPLE. This ſhipwreck was a misfortune for the Greeks of ARGENTIERA. The PORTE diſpatched a cadi with two veſſels, in order to aſcertain the loſs of the effects of ISMAEL Bey, and recover the greateſt part poſſible. I was witneſs of the ſort of inqueſt of theſe pretended officers of juſtice; there were many baſtinadoes diſtributed, many vexations exerciſed, and the moſt valuable part of the booty remained in the hands of thoſe who were come to ſave it, and tranſmit it to the owner.

The number of ſhips which repaired to the road of ARGENTIERA, from every point of the ſeas of the LEVANT, made the iſland of that name an important poſt for navigation and commerce. The French maintained a conſul there, and this place had been filled by M. BREST, who had reſided there for upwards of forty years. His title was changed, and his appointments were diminiſhed; he became vice-conſul, and, during the latter part of

dilatory and revolting reduction in the moderate ſtipend of M. BREST, they knew that no one would act better than he, and they did not interfere, in any reſpect, in his adminiſtration.

In fact, it would have been a difficult matter to combine with a long habit of the commercial and maritime affairs of the LEVANT, a more extenſive knowledge of the taſtes and cuſtoms of the different nations by which it is inhabited or viſited, and a more merited conſideration. Equally eſteemed by the French navy, by the European merchants ſettled in TURKEY, and by the navigators attracted thither by trade or war, M. BREST enjoyed general eſteem. The Turks regarded him as the moſt upright of men, and the Greeks entertained for him the higheſt veneration. Confidence attended him; born as it were the arbitrator of the frequent diſputes which aroſe in ſeas reſorted to by different nations, his deciſions were followed without appeal, as without murmur; his truly patriarchal authority made him a father, a beloved ruler; and the French flag, which floated above his houſe, although inſulated, and without means of protection, was no where more reſpected than at ARGENTIERA.

CHAPTER

CHAPTER XXIV.

Village or town of Argentiera.—*Houſes.*—*Fleas.*—*Feſtival of the exaltation of the holy croſs.*—*Inhabitants of* Argentiera.—*Convent of Capuchins.*—*Picture which was found there.*—*Grand Vicar.*—*Period of the conſtruction of the preſent town of* Argentiera.—*Greek churches.*—Vaivode.—*Situation of the Greeks of* Argentiera.—*Their agriculture.*—*Barley.*—*Wine.*—*Domeſtic animals.*—*Water.*

THE only inhabited place in the Iſland of ARGENTIERA is on the ſummit of a mountain of rocks, the aſcent to which is by a very difficult road. It is hard to ſay whether this place ſhould be called a town or a village. Were we to pay attention only to the ſmall number, and above all to the wretched conſtruction of the houſes, it would be moſt aſſuredly no more than a bad village; but it is ſurrounded by high walls and ſecured by two gates, and this circumſtance

gives it ſome appearance of a town and even of a city.

Be this as it may, it is a poor place, the houſes of which, ill-built, are ſtill kept in worſe order: ſeveral are falling into ruins, and not one, but preſents, as it were, the ſtamp of wretchedneſs and the exterior of poverty. They are ſmall, narrow, and by no means lofty; they conſiſt only of two apartments, one of which, low and dark, has every appearance of a den, and the other is above it: the aſcent to the latter is by a few ſteps placed on the outſide, and the only door that it has, opens on the landing-place of this ſort of ſtair-caſe, without a baluſtrade and without a balcony. Openings, which which are cloſed by wooden ſhutters, ſupply the place of ſaſhes, and the ground ſerves as a floor or pavement. Accordingly there perhaps is no place in the world where there are ſo many fleas, particularly during the winter, as in theſe rude dwellings, eſpecially in thoſe which have not been occupied for ſome time; and the lodging which I hired was of that number: in other reſpects, ARGENTIERA has this in common with other iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO, where the buildings are no better. The multitude of thoſe inſects

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is really extraordinary; one is covered and devoured by them; they ſpread themſelves even over, and ſlip into the hair, which I had not obſerved elſewhere. It is aſſerted that they are ſtill more numerous in the houſes inhabited by nurſes, becauſe, it is ſaid, they are attracted by the ſmell of the milk.

Theſe houſes, ſo paltry, have by way of covering a bad flat roof, conſiſting only of a ſort of wooden hurdle, on which earth is ſpread and beaten. Stormy ſhowers frequently penetrate it, and induce the neceſſity of loading it with freſh earth, which does not long ſecure the inſide of the houſe. In lieu of exerting greater care and intelligence in the conſtruction of theſe roofs, the Greeks of the ARCHIPELAGO, a people long addicted to ſuperſtition, prefer relying on heaven for the preſervation of their dwellings. On the eve of the feſtival of the exaltation of the holy croſs, it is an ancient cuſtom to ſweep and clean nicely the flat roofs of the houſes; when, towards the evening, the bells of the churches begin to ring, the inhabitants there draw large croſſes; and theſe figures are, to their credulity, the beſt means of preſerving the top of their habitations from being penetrated by the winter rains.

The evening of this very day which precedes the exaltation of the holy croſs, one of the greateſt feſtivals of the Greek church, fires are kindled in the ſtreets of the towns and villages of the ARCHIPELAGO, where the inhabitants are not reſtricted by the preſence of their tyrants. They all, great and little, paſs thrice over theſe fires, at the ſame time reciting prayers, by which they implore, from divine aſſiſtance, the preſervation of their health during the following year, as well as plentiful vintages. But, in order that theſe prayers may have all the efficacy which they expect from them, they ſeriouſly aſſert that there muſt be in the fires ſome parts of the ſeſamum plant.

A ſingle ſtreet makes the circumference of the town or village of ARGENTIERA. People who are as badly lodged as the Greeks of this iſland, were not likely to think of paving their ſtreet, which, in rainy weather, is a long heap of deep mud; humidity, water itſelf then finds its way into the rooms of the ground floor, which are almoſt ſubterraneous, and renders them habitations equally unwholeſome and inconvenient.

It is within this encloſure of wretchedneſs that about two hundred Greek families take

take up their reſidence. There were in my time but two Frenchmen: the conſul or agent, and another Provençal, who ſerved as a pilot to ſhips of war of different nations, which the protection of their commerce brought into theſe ſeas. There were no other Catholics than the families of theſe two Frenchmen; the remainder of the inhabitants followed the religious principles of the Greek church. This ſmall number of Latin Chriſtians no longer required the care of ſeveral miniſters. Some Capuchins, who had eſtabliſhed themſelves there formerly, had abandoned their *hoſpice*, built on the outſide of the town. This houſe was in ruins, and every thing that the Capuchins had left there was become the prey of the people of the country and of ſtrangers. I alſo ſaw there a very fine picture, which had not excited the cupidity of ignorant depredators, but which had great merit; it repreſented a miracle which the monks of the TRINITY, occupied, as is well known, with the redemption of Chriſtian ſlaves in the Mahometan countries, relate to have happened in BARBARY. Some of theſe monks, having learned that there exiſted in the hands of the inhabitants of BARBARY an enormous cru-

cifix in bronze, ariſing from the plunder of ſome Chriſtian ſhip or ſettlement, did every thing in their power to obtain it; they ſucceeded in this only by promiſing to give a weight of ſilver equal to that of the croſs. It is the moment when the ſcales are brought into the preſence of the officers of juſtice and of an immenſe crowd, that the painter of this picture has choſen. The crucifix is on one of the ſcales; bags of ſilver coin, which the pious zeal of the Trinitarians had had ſo much difficulty to collect, are lying on the ground; one of theſe friars, on his knees, is beginning to empty one of them into the other ſcale, and ſcarcely are a few pieces, equivalent to the value of the copper crucifix, come out of it, than the equilibrium of the ſcales is eſtabliſhed. The grateful admiration towards heaven, depicted on the countenance of the friars, the ſtupid and ſtern ſurpriſe on the faces of the natives of BARBARY, the tone of truth which reigns in a group compoſed of a multitude of details, together with the beauty of the colouring, announce a maſterly pencil, and made this picture a valuable work. The conſul aſſured me, that an Engliſh traveller had offered the Capuchins to give them as many ſequins

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as it could hold, placed beſide each other on the canvas of the picture; and theſe monks, who ſet ſo high a value on its poſſeſſion as to reject ſuch conſiderable offers, ended by abandoning it, and giving it up to the duſt, and to the outrages of groſs and ignorant people. I had no difficulty in obtaining from the conſul authority to reſcue this fine work from approaching annihilation, and to bring it to FRANCE. It is there in fact, but I cannot tell where; for it was taken from me ſome time before my arrival, without my being able to diſcover ſince what was become of it.

The ſmall church, or the chapel of the Capuchins, likewiſe ſerved for the Catholics of ARGENTIERA; but this temple partook of the general wretchedneſs; the moſt ſimple decorations were there wanting, and the ornaments, as well as the linen neceſſary for the altar, were falling into tatters.

A ſecular prieſt, born in the Iſland of SCIO, and who had ſtudied at ROME, ſtill performed divine ſervice in this chapel. He aſſumed the title of grand vicar, and pretended to be inveſted with all the powers of the biſhops in the Iſlands of MILO and ARGENTIERA, which, according to him, were

not in the dependency of any biſhopric, and formed for him a little diſtrict, over which he exerciſed ſpiritual ſupremacy; and, in truth, his eminent dignity did not fatigue him much; for there no longer exiſted but a ſingle Catholic in the former of thoſe iſlands. All his functions were limited to ſaying the maſs of the conſul; and, by this trifling duty, he compenſated for the protection which the French government granted him, as well as to the biſhops and other Latin prieſts ſcattered throughout TURKEY.

The prieſt of ARGENTIERA was very proud of his nominal biſhopric; he ſuffered no opportunity to eſcape of ſpeaking of it, and particularly of inſerting in the ſmall number of acts which he had to write, and which he increaſed deſignedly, the formula *nullius diœceſis**, the declaration of his ſpiritual independence. With the exception of this little pride, which, in other countries beſides the EAST, not unfrequently replaced evangelical modeſty, M. MARCOPOLI, this is the name of the eccleſiaſtic, was cer-

* *Belonging to no dioceſe:* thus are called the diſtricts which are not ſubject to the juriſdiction of any biſhop, and where chapters or eccleſiaſtical dignitaries diſcharge epiſcopal functions.

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tainly the beſt man in the world; intelligent and anxious to acquire knowledge, he communicated with much complaiſance that which he poſſeſſed reſpecting his own country; he was extremely uſeful to me during my travels. I had conceived for him much eſteem and friendſhip, and I learnt with concern that, a ſhort time after my departure from the LEVANT, he had ſunk under a long illneſs.

His ordinary dreſs conſiſted of a black caſſock, like that of our prieſts, a broad and high black cap, of an equal width from one end to the other, and a pair of whiſkers. He was reſpected by the Turks and Greeks; but for this reſpect he was indebted to the protection which he received from FRANCE; a protection which was then of very great weight in countries where our nation enjoyed conſiderable influence and many excluſive advantages.

The town of ARGENTIERA is very modern; its conſtruction goes no farther back than 1646. A tradition, preſerved among the preſent inhabitants, informs us that it was begun by ſome Greek fugitives from the Iſland of SIPHANTO, who kept themſelves concealed, for ſome time, in a wood which then

then covered its ſite. Theſe Greeks had brought with them in their flight an image of the Virgin, and they built houſes in the place where the repreſentation of the mother of God had been pleaſed to ſtop with them, and to preſerve them from the attacks of their enemies.

Several Greek churches or chapels, ſcarcely poſſeſſing more riches than that of the catholics, are built behind the village. They all have, above their portal, little bells, which are frequently in motion. But, on a miſerable and inſulated land, their ſound ſcares not the Muſſulmans, and they have diſdained to take away from a handful of Greeks, whoſe ſituation rendered them little worthy of attention, a privilege which they refuſe with ſeverity in almoſt all the parts of their empire, and which is of great value in the eyes of people, whoſe whole chriſtianity conſiſts in exterior practices.

A Greek of ARGENTIERA itſelf, and ſometimes of a neighbouring iſland, goes every year to CONSTANTINOPLE, to purchaſe the right of oppreſſing his countrymen, under the title of *vaivode*. This place, which anſwers to that of intendant, is a poſt which is put up to auction, and ſold to the higheſt bidder.

bidder. The iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO, where the Turks do not command in perſon, have the ſame form of adminiſtration; the vaivode there collects the public revenues, impoſes arbitrary fines; in a word, torments his fellow-citizens by as many exactions and acts of injuſtice as could be committed by the moſt ſevere and moſt covetous Muſſulman officer. With the exception of ill uſage, of exceſſes of an unbridled violence, in which the Turkiſh commandants ſometimes indulge themſelves, towards a people whom they conſider as a horde of ſlaves and reprobates, the vaivodes accompany their temporary functions with ſo much harſhneſs and rapine, that the Greeks have moſt frequently to repent being governed by a man of their own nation.

And this cruel inſenſibility, which ſuddenly converts one oppreſſed into a pitileſs oppreſſor, is not peculiar to the Greeks of the ARCHIPELAGO; it is a vice common to all low and debaſed minds, which know no more of power than its abuſes, and confound the duties of legitimate authority with the obligation of uſing extreme ſeverity. The black ſlaves in the WEST INDIES had no overſeers more rough and more inhuman than thoſe of their own colour who had

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ſhared their fate, and we ſhall long have preſent in our memory the horrors, the devaſtation, and the pillage which have been wantonly committed by a few men of the dregs of the people, inveſted, through the effect of an inconceivable delirium, with a terrible power, which could ſcarcely be equalled by that aſſumed by ferocious uſurpers.

The miſerable ſtate of ARGENTIERA was not, I was told, carried to the pitch in which it is at the preſent day. I was aſſured that, before the war between the Ruſſians and the Turks, during which the former came from their northern countries by routes, the poſſibility of which the ignorance of the latter had not been able to diſcover, and eſtabliſhed in the ARCHIPELAGO itſelf their ſtation, their magazines, and their cruiſes, whence they threatened the capital of the Ottoman empire, this country enjoyed greater comfort. But, during this ſtruggle between the Ruſſians and the Turks, the defenceleſs iſlands were given up to pillage and contributions, to which places that become the theatre of war are always expoſed. And what crowd of ills muſt overwhelm thoſe where the barbarity of the men, who are at war, adds to the

horrors of which it compoſes its dreadful train! Pirates, taking advantage of diſorder and impunity, increaſed by their robberies the calamities of theſe countries; and ARGENTIERA, whoſe road could not fail to be the place of the ARCHIPELAGO the moſt frequented by ſhips of every ſort, more expoſed than any other iſland, muſt have been exceſſively impoveriſhed.

Here was a general want of the neceſſary articles of life; neither corn, meat, nor vegetables were to be found. All that it was poſſible to procure conſiſted of barley-bread and a few eggs. The whole iſland, which is ſcarcely ſix leagues in circuit, is formed by mountains of rocks, and almoſt entirely ſteril. If we except a few fig-trees, ſcattered among the vineyards and fields, no tree enlivens with its verdure a rugged and arid ſoil, formerly ſhaded by foreſts, and where, more recently, ſtill grew in abundance the tree whoſe fruit furniſhes the moſt uſeful, as well as the moſt ſavoury of oils. Theſe latter ſpecies of plantations, which conſtitute the wealth of a country whoſe climate is favourable to them, were, at ARGENTIERA, and on ſome neighbouring lands, the prey of flames, directed by the

devaſtating hand of war, during the long continuance of hoſtilities between the Venetians and the Turks.

All the preſent induſtry of the Greeks of this iſland is reduced to the culture of a little cotton, ſome barley, and a few vines. When a perſon wiſhes to eat other bread, he is obliged to ſend for wheat from countries more fortunate. During the winter, boats touch here loaded with biſcuit; their cargo is preſently ſold; for people, conſtantly reduced to barley-bread, find a ſort of treat in a food dry and hard, but more reliſhing.

It is not that the bread which is made at ARGENTIERA, and in almoſt all the iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO, with barley-meal, is not good; the people of theſe countries ſcarcely eat any other. I lived on it a long time, and not only found in it no diſagreeable flavour, but it appeared to me well-taſted and reliſhing. In all the EAST, this bread, of pure barley, is a very common aliment; the Hebrews made a great conſumption of it; and there is every reaſon to preſume, that anciently, as in our days, the culture of barley, and its uſe as daily food, would not have been ſpread ſo generally in countries where wheat grows in abundance, if

if the bread which is made from it had been reckoned a coarſe and even diſguſting food, like the ſame bread in our northern departments. On my return to my own country, I wiſhed to compare the barley-bread which, in years of ſcarcity, is ſometimes made in our villages, with that which I had ſo frequently eaten without diſguſt in the LEVANT; and I found that, independently of its colour, much blacker, it was conſiderably heavier and really bad. Want alone can command the uſe of it; therefore, the barley of warm climates muſt yield a meal more ſavoury than in our countries. Perhaps too, this grain, which among us is not, commonly, deſtined for the ſubſiſtence of men, has not obtained the ſame attention as wheat in its grinding, and being made into bread; and, perhaps, better attended to, it would ultimately furniſh bread, which would come near the goodneſs of the barley-bread of the EAST.

The wine of ARGENTIERA is not ſo good as that of ſeveral ſurrounding iſlands; and this defect of quality proceeds, no doubt, only from bad management, ſince the ſoil is as fit as in thoſe other countries for the culture of the vine. I am even aſtoniſhed

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that the inhabitants contrive to make wine; for, no ſooner are the grapes ripe, than they eat them in ſuch great quantities, that it appears likely that there would no longer be any remaining, whoſe juice may be expreſſed; and theſe ſort of partial and anticipated vintages are alſo one of the cauſes of the mediocrity of the wine, for which are reſerved none but the grapes the leaſt ripe and of the worſt appearance.

However, the Iſland of MILO, which is very near, furniſhes the wine which is commonly drunk at ARGENTIERA; very good ſheep are alſo thence procured. The inhabitants of ARGENTIERA poſſeſs only flocks, which are as pitiful as every thing that ſurrounds them. A few miſerable aſſes, a ſmall number of hogs, and ſome fowls, are the only domeſtic animals that are there to be ſeen; and if they had not the reſources which the ſea preſents for fiſhing, and that very limited one of fowling, it would be a difficult matter to live on an iſland which is almoſt in want of every thing. Water even is not here common; here are no rivers, no rivulets, nor ſprings; no other than ciſtern water is drunk. A marſh of miry water, which is at the entrance of the village

village towards the ſea, is the only watering-place where the ſmall number of animals that are here fed can quench their thirſt; its muddy banks are conſtantly enlivened by wagtails; thoſe reſtleſs birds diffuſe life and gaiety in places where every thing inſpires melancholy, where every thing ſeems ready to be annihilated under the weight of penury and oppreſſion.

CHAPTER XXV.

Names of the Iſland of Argentiera. —*Silver mines.*—*Cimolian earth.*—*Its properties*; *its uſe in the arts*; *the utility which might be derived from it for our manufactures*; *facility with which it might be procured*; *its nature.* — *Volcanoes.* — *Thermal waters.* — *Their properties*; *manner in which the Greeks make uſe of them*; *their ſituation.*— *Bluiſh ſubſtance which covers the ſurrounding rocks.* — *Stinking lake.* — *Grottoes.* — *Mountain.*—*Birds.*—Kedros.—*Oil of* Kedros.—*Different nature of the mountains.* —Praſe.—*Excavations.*—*Wild artichokes.* —Semena. — *Petrified wood.* — *Lentiſk.* — *Saffron.*—*Manner of ſelling it.*—*Its price.*

IF the little Iſland of ARGENTIERA neither affords the comforts nor conveniences of life, Nature has made it an intereſting place, from its ſituation, and the ſubſtances which it contains in its boſom, or which it produces ſpontaneouſly on its ſurface. The ancients named

it

it *Kimolos*; they were alſo acquainted with it under the name of *Echinussa*, *Viper Island**, on account of the great quantity of thoſe reptiles which it fed, at a time when, little frequented by men, it was covered only by rocks, foreſts, or brambles.—The Greeks ſtill call it at this day *Kimoli*. The Europeans diſcovered there ſilver mines, whence has ariſen the denomination of Argentiera, by which they have not ſince ceaſed to diſtinguiſh it.

Thoſe mines are abandoned; it is even probable that they never were very productive, which may have occaſioned the working of them to be renounced. It is not known at what period they were open, nor at what other they were deſerted. The inhabitants have not preſerved the remembrance of either, and they have taken good care not to make any attempt that might give the Turks reaſon to ſuſpect the exiſtence of a precious metal: this would have been to them a new and inexhauſtible ſource of extortion and wretchedneſs. Under an odious tyranny, people do not become rich with impunity; imminent danger accompanies

* *Cimolus quæ Echinuſſa.*—Plin. Hiſt. Nat. lib. iv. cap. xii.

whatever may fix attention and excite cupidity; and they are ſo reduced as to conſider diſtreſs a deſirable bleſſing.

It appears that the principal mine, whence ſilver was drawn, is on a lofty cape, oppoſite to the little Iſland of SAN GEORGIO. The Ruſſians, during their long ſtay in the ARCHIPELAGO, attempted to work them anew. I alſo know that M. DE LACLUE, formerly a captain in the French navy, made ſeveral trials in that way; but theſe attempts and theſe trials have demonſtrated, that the quantity of the mineral was too ſmall to cover the coſt of the working, and it is undoubtedly to the ſame cauſe that we muſt attribute the ancient deſertion of them. It might, nevertheleſs, be poſſible that, by puſhing the labours to a greater depth than has been hitherto done, adventurers might meet with veins more rich and an ore more abundant, which might indemnify them for the expenſes, and yield a profit; but ſpeculations of this nature ſhould be deferred to other times, in countries where, through the effect of a ſtrange barbariſm, national riches become the ſcourge and the ruin of individuals, and where the maſs of earth and rocks, which cover

cover theſe gifts of Nature, cannot be compoſed of ſtrata too thick.

The ſea waſhes the foot of this mountain, which is ſaid to contain ſilver. There it is that the iſlanders go to ſupply themſelves with an argillaceous ſubſtance, diluted by the waters, and which ſerves them in lieu of ſoap for waſhing their linen. The ancients knew it by the name of *terra Cimolia*, from that of KIMOLOS, which they had given to the iſland where it is to be found. It has been confounded with other different mineral ſubſtances. There is no work on mineralogy that does not make mention of Cimolian earth; but in all there exiſts, on this ſubject, an equal confuſion of words and things. In like manner as the name of *terra ſigillata*, which was nothing more than a generic deſignation, given to various ſubſtances on which impreſſions, ſeals, &c. are applied, has been indifferently attributed to calcareous earths, to boles, and to clays; the name of *terra Cimolia* has alſo been extended to ſome ſpecies of fuller's earth, and even to boles.

I have convinced myſelf that the true Cimolian earth of the ancients, that which is drawn from KIMOLI or ARGENTIERA, and which is very different from all the

analogous ſubſtances with which it has been confounded, is not at all known in FRANCE, unleſs, perhaps, by a few curious perſons. On my return to PARIS, I viſited the warehouſes of the druggiſts in the *RUE DES LOMBARDS*; I there aſked for Cimolian earth, and I was at one time ſhewn Armenian bole; at another, reddiſh Lemnian earth; and laſtly, ſigillated Malteſe earth. None of the traders of that rich quarter, who all probably had an idea of Cimolian earth, knew how to diſtinguiſh it; and, on ſeeing the ſpecimen which I produced, they acknowledged that it was unknown to them.

Without admitting all the medicinal properties, attributed to the earth of ARGENTIERA by the ancients, who ſet a high value on it, and frequently uſed it in medicine*, it has ſome more real, which ought to have reſcued it from the oblivion into which it has fallen for many ages. It is a *ſmectis*, a natural ſoap, which coſts only the trouble of taking it up at the place where Nature has formed it. Diſſolved in water, this ſub-

* Reſpecting the virtues of Cimolian earth, *ſee* PLINY's Natural Hiſtory, book xxxv. chap. xvii; DIOSCORIDES, book v. chap. cxxxiii; GALEN, Theophanis a Nonni *epitome de curatione morborum*, &c. &c.

ſtance,

ſtance, for a long time, maintains its ſaponaceous froth and bubbles, like common ſoap. Moſt of the Greeks of the ARCHIPELAGO make uſe of no other ſubſtance for waſhing linen, and they have obſerved that it was better bleached when they employed ſea-water for diſſolving this earth, the preſent name of which is *pylo TSINNIAS*, that is, *TSINNIAS* clay, becauſe the Greeks call *TSINNIAS* the place whence it is taken. It is put on board boats, which convey it to the other iſlands, and to different countries of the LEVANT. That which the ſea-water has penetrated is taken, and formed into little oblong maſſes, which are ſuffered to dry. Experience has, undoubtedly, taught the Greeks, that the earth, thus moiſtened, was preferable to that which is dry and hardened, of which the ſame mountain is entirely compoſed; never do they take any above the line waſhed by the waves. Accordingly theſe ſorts of cakes, formed with Cimolian earth, always contain a ſtrong doſe of marine ſalt, foreign to the earth, and with which the ſea impregnates it. Cimolian earth is alſo very fit for taking out ſpots of greaſe from woollens or ſilks: it is ſufficient to ſoften a piece of it in common water, and to ſpread

it on the place ſpotted; it is ſuffered to dry, then it is reduced to duſt by rubbing it with a bruſh; the ſpot is effaced without the gloſs or colour being impaired. Its effect is more certain than that of all the ſtones for taking out ſpots. Several perſons, among whom I have diſtributed the ſmall quantity which I had brought home, have made the trial with ſucceſs; but it muſt be obſerved that it abſorbs none but greaſy ſubſtances, and that it is uſeleſs for other ſpots. It alſo cleans extremely well the ſword-belts, the ſhoulder-belts, and buff accoutrements of troops. The ſhoemakers of the LEVANT make uſe of it for gluing leather and ſkins, and its tenacity occaſions it to be employed, in the ſame countries, as a glue fit for different uſes. But this ſubſtance might become, for our manufactures, of an utility greater and more general. PLINY mentions that the Romans uſed it for the ſcowering of woollen cloths. The *lex metella*, of which the cenſors C. FLAMINIUS and L. ÆMILIUS were the authors, preſcribed the order in which fullers were to make uſe of the ſubſtances which they employ, and Cimolian earth was intended to ſet off the true and valuable colours, and to revive the luſtre of thoſe which the fumes of ſulphur had darkened.

kened*. The teſtimony of the ancients and my own obſervations leave no doubt reſpecting the advantage which might be derived from the uſe of Cimolian earth in the fulleries, and the cleanſing of wool. Means would probably be found to employ it with advantage in other arts; and every thing inclines me to think that, by introducing it into FRANCE, we ſhould find in it other uſeful properties. The carriage alone would be attended with ſome expenſe; it would coſt nothing to take the Cimolian earth from the foot of the mountain, where it is moiſtened by the ſea; the veſſels which frequent the LEVANT might eaſily ſhip it, to ſerve them as ballaſt; ſo that we ſhould have, at a very low price, a uſeful and inexhauſtible ſubſtance.

I have ſaid that I conſidered this mineral ſubſtance, which is of a whitiſh gray, heavy, fat, and ſaponaceous, as a ſpecies of *ſmectis* or *ſmectites*, which does not appear to contain metallic particles. A learned traveller, who, like me, has examined the Cimolian earth in the Iſland of ARGENTIERA, affirms that this ſubſtance, very abundant, but little

* *Veros autem et pretioſos colores emollit Cimolia, et quodam nitore exhilirat contriſtatos ſulphure.*—PLIN. Hiſt. Nat. lib. xxxv. cap. xvii.

known

known, is only a ſlow and gradual decompoſition of porphyries, occaſioned by ſubterraneous fires. "I have brought home," ſays OLIVIER, "ſpecimens of every ſtate through which that earth paſſes. This "obſervation "will, no doubt, be intereſting to mineralo-"giſts, and will make them acquainted with "the origin of a ſubſtance till now ſo little "known*." I confeſs that I am at a loſs to comprehend how porphyry, on which fire makes no impreſſion, can be decompoſed by the effect of volcanoes, and reduced to a greaſy and ſaponaceous ſubſtance. Another circumſtance perplexes me: this is, that Cimolian earth is acted on by acids, which occaſion it to enter into a ſtate of fermentation; whereas theſe ſame acids produce no ſuch effect on porphyry. Theſe difficulties, foreſeen by OLIVIER, are cleared up, no doubt, in his theory, with which I am as yet acquainted only by the ſlight ſketch that he has preſented of it in the Report which I have juſt quoted; and his talents and his ex-

* Report of travels, performed by order of the French government, in the *Ottoman Empire, Egypt*, and *Perſia*, during the firſt ſix years of the Republic, read to the National Inſtitute, by Citizen OLIVIER.—*Magaſin Encyclopédique du premier Germinal*, an vii. No. 22, page 198.

tenſive

tenſive knowledge in natural hiſtory inſpire too much confidence to doubt that, by deſtroying every objection, he has grounded his opinion on certain baſes and inconteſtable facts.

The Iſland of ARGENTIERA is nothing but a group of volcanic ſubſtances. It exhibits on all ſides indications of thoſe great fires which Nature feeds in the bowels of the earth: every thing there preſents the image of a vaſt combuſtion; and it is probable that theſe ſubterraneous fires, whoſe action has ſhewn itſelf externally, and has imprinted on the ſoil violent commotions, which, combined with the effort of the waters, may have contributed by immenſe depreſſions to inſulate it, are ſtill burning with activity at great depths, and threaten it again perhaps with freſh convulſions.

In ſeveral places, the rocks are calcined; the productions of theſe volcanoes are frequently met with, and OLIVIER has there diſcovered pozzolana, as well as at MILO and at SANTORIN*. Hot and ſmoking waters ſtill atteſt there the exiſtence of a ſubterraneous fire in full activity: they iſſue from

* *See* the Memoir before quoted.

a rock

a rock near the ſea, on the north-weſt part of the iſland. The heat of theſe waters is ſo powerful, that a perſon cannot hold his hand in them; and in an inſtant eggs are boiled hard. They depoſit a ſediment of a yellow ochre; when cooled, they aſſume a whitiſh tint, and their flavour is of an extreme tartneſs. I plunged into this burning and mineral ſpring an aërometer; it marked five degrees, and the ſame inſtrument gave but one degree, put into the water, which is conſidered as the beſt in the iſland, that of the conſul's garden, after it had been purified by remaining in large earthen jars.

Theſe thermal waters are reckoned, among the Greeks, to be very well calculated for curing rheumatiſm, ſciatica, and other diſorders of that nature, by ſteeping in them linen cloths which are applied to the parts affected. I have been told of the wonderful effects of applications of this ſort, and I have had no difficulty in believing them, as the waters of ARGENTIERA muſt be very active. I do not know even whether the method of partial applications which are made of them, and only on the parts affected, be not more efficacious than total immerſion or baths, as preſcribed by our phyſicians in the thermal waters

waters of our countries. Does not the action of the remedy, ſpread over the ſurface of the whole body, loſe ſome of its energy with reſpect to the part affected; and does not its impreſſion prevent, or at leaſt diminiſh the effect expected from it for re-eſtabliſhing, in one ſingle part, the circulation of the humours, and curing local ſufferings? Long experience, tradition which is as old perhaps as the times when phyſicians, more full of obſervation than learning, dictated, in ancient and brilliant GREECE, rules from which ſound practitioners are ſtill afraid to deviate, have perhaps taught the modern Greeks the method of employing, on the very ſpot, thermal waters as a topical application rather than as a bath. It appears to me, indeed, more natural and more ſuitable to the ſpecies of complaints which it is meant to cure; and as it cannot be attended with any inconvenience; and as, beſides, other nations practiſe it with ſucceſs, I recommend to phyſicians, who diſdain not to employ the curative means of which they are not the authors or the partiſans, and the patients who ſeek relief, to adapt this procedure with our thermal waters.

Yet

Yet I ſhall not tell them what the Greeks aſſert of the ſpring of hot waters of ARGENTIERA: that it is ſufficient to make uſe of reiterated applications, during a ſingle day, to be delivered from rheumatic pains of the moſt inveterate nature. Whatever efficacy we may attribute to them, whatever influence we may grant to climate on diſorders more frequent and more obſtinate in our northern countries, ſo expeditious a cure is ſcarcely probable, when we obſerve that theſe diſorders occaſion, among us, the deſpair of phyſicians, and ſtill more that of patients.

However, the Greeks, who always blend in their actions ſome ſuperſtitious practices, recommend to perſons who take a trip to the waters, to leave there a part of the garments which covered them, a piece of ſhirt, of drawers, of waiſtcoat, &c. becauſe, ſay they, the diſorder remains on the very ſpot with theſe fragments of clothes.

The place where theſe thermal waters of ARGENTIERA are ſituated, affords no accommodation to thoſe who wiſh to go thither. The viſiter arrives there by a very difficult road; he finds no ſhelter againſt the heat of the ſun; not a hut, not a ſingle tree; ſcarcely is there in the neighbourhood a

ſpace

ſpace ſufficiently level for a few perſons to be able to ſit down, all this diſtrict being nothing more than the ſummit of a mountain, formed of prominent and pointed rocks. But a thing very remarkable, and which is intereſting to mineralogy, is, that all the ſtones of the environs are covered with a ſtratum of a mineral ſubſtance of a bluiſh colour, which preſents a very ſingular appearance.

Another trace of an extinguiſhed volcano is to be remarked not far from the thermal waters, on the ſea-ſhore, and in following the coaſt towards the north. This is the mouth or crater of an ancient volcano, which, for a long time, exhaled infectious vapours, whence the modern Greeks have called it *vromo limno*, that is, *ſtinking lake*. This gulf is, properly ſpeaking, in our days, only a lagoon of the ſea, which no longer diffuſes a bad ſmell. Remote from every habitation and extremely ſolitary, wild ducks come frequently to reſt themſelves on its tranquil waters, and it is uncommon not to find ſome there during the winter.

By the ſide of this lake, to the north, are met with ſeveral grottoes or caverns cut in

the rock, and which appear to have ſerved as habitations. In one, there is a ſpring of good water, which, in this retired ſpot, is uſeleſs to the inhabitants of ARGENTIERA. They aſſert that theſe excavations ſerved their anceſtors for melting the iron ore which they drew from the neighbouring mountains. A narrow receſs of the ſea permitted boats to land on this coaſt, and it is to be preſumed that, if the roadſtead of ARGENTIERA had not become the general rendezvous of all the veſſels which navigate in the ſeas of the LEVANT, the preſent inhabitants would not have abandoned the weſt coaſt, where they would have found a ſoil leſs ungrateful, ſmall coves fit for the reception of their boats, and a copious ſpring. But, among civilized nations, commerce is an irreſiſtible allurement which hurries away men to places where it makes its appearance, and frequently induces them to forſake real advantages, to run after chimeras, which corrupt at the ſame time that they enrich.

This cove, where is ſituated the ſtinking lake of which I have juſt ſpoken, is formed to the north by a large elevated mountain, which is cleft and ſeparated from itſelf, in its middle, throughout its whole height. One half

half no longer exiſts, and has been carried away or ſwallowed up by the waves; the part which remains preſents a cut nearly perpendicular, and at the ſame time a little concave, entirely compoſed of a gray ſtone, calcareous, and of a conſiſtence by no means ſolid. It is this ſoftneſs of the ſtony ſubſtance of which it is formed, that has occaſioned its falling away. In fact, inceſſantly beaten at its foot by the waves, and loaded at its ſummit by the weight of the lands ſoaked by the rains, it has been unable to reſiſt thoſe two powers acting in a contrary direction, and has neceſſarily opened and ſeparated.

The hill, at the foot of which is the cove, is ſloping and covered with a thick ſtratum of mould, on which grow more ſhrubs and plants than on every other ſpot in the iſland. In this ſolitude, which would not be one, if the population of the countries, ſubject to a government which is the moſt unfavourable to it, was not diminiſhing inſtead of increaſing, I found a quantity of birds aſſembled, a living homage paid to the fertility of this diſtrict. I there ſaw a great number of thruſhes of the large ſpecies,

together with blackbirds, linnets, petty-chaps, partridges, a woodcock, &c. &c.

At ſome diſtance, and in the north north-eaſt quarter of the iſland, facing the Iſland of SIPHANTO, is another diſtrict which is called *KEDROS*, becauſe it is furniſhed with the ſpecies of tall junipers, which the modern Greeks call by that name*. None of them are ſeen in the other parts of the iſland, and they enliven this quarter, the approaches to which are ſomewhat gloomy, from the light tint of the greeniſh white of their leaves, and the red of their berries, reſembling ſmall cherries. Theſe tall ſhrubs yield no gum at ARGENTIERA; their wood, as well as their leaves pounded, have a very ſtrong odour. The Greeks make uſe of the oil which they draw from the ſtem and the branches, for the cure of the itch. They ſelect the oldeſt wood, and that moſt impregnated with ſap, which is then a little blackiſh; they cut it into ſmall pieces, which they put into an earthen pot, with a little hole pierced in its bottom; they cloſe and cover with paſte the lid of the pot; then kindle a fire all round it,

* This is a variety of the juniper, which grows likewiſe in the ſouthern countries of *France*. *Juniperus oxicedrus*. LINN.

and

and the heat cauſes to trickle down, through the aperture in the bottom, the oil which iſſues from it, and which is received into a veſſel placed underneath. This oil is thick, and yellow as ſaffron; it tinges with yellow the things that are rubbed with it; and the body of thoſe who uſe it for curing themſelves of the itch, is a long time before it is freed from this tenacious colour. It is, however, a very good remedy for that diſorder.

It is ſeen that this oil is nearly the ſame as the *huile de cade*, which is drawn from the junipers of the ſouth of FRANCE, and which, in our rural economy, is very commonly uſed for eradicating the mange of ſheep and cattle. Oil of *Kedros* may acquire greater virtues through the influence of climate, and perhaps too from the manner in which it is extracted.

It is principally on the back of a lofty and ſteep mountain, at the foot of which is a narrow cove, that the greateſt number of Kedros are found in the diſtrict which bears the name of thoſe ſhrubs. The back of this mountain is covered with a rich and whitiſh earth, under which is a white and brittle rock; a multitude of pieces of lava, cinereous and brown, is ſcattered over the

ſoil, and below, the beach is ſtrewn with flints, black and burnt, ſome of which are of a prodigious ſize. The creek is formed on the right by a hill of calcareous rock, white, ſoft, calcined, and forming only one ſingle maſs, broken and ſhattered on all ſides; to the left, by a mountain perpendicular on its three ſides, of the ſame nature as the hill to the right: but, in lieu of the clefts, this is as if artificially wrought, on the naked faſcia, in acanthus leaves, ſuch as are ſeen on the chapiters of pillars. Cloſe by the ſide of this latter mountain riſes another, quite black and burnt, which forms a ſtriking contraſt with the whiteneſs of the former. Theſe contraſts between grounds very near to each other, are to be found in ſeveral parts of the iſland, and it is pretty generally obſerved, that the mountains or hills which have more immediately experienced the action of volcanoes, are at preſent covered with earth; whereas thoſe, the rock of which is white, are abſolutely naked.

If, from the diſtrict of KEDROS, we continue to follow the coaſt, on the eaſtern ſhore of the iſland, we find a cove larger than thoſe of which I have juſt ſpoken; an iſlet, ſomewhat lofty, lies in the middle; the water

is deep; and ſmall veſſels may anchor there: but as this place, which is named *Prase*, is ſolitary, navigators are not fond of frequenting it. On the declivity of the mountain, which forms the head of the ſmall haven of Prase, are ſeen ſome grottoes, dug in the rock. The largeſt has a very wide entrance; its interior is ſpacious, and its extremity is walled up. The Greeks are ignorant for what uſe theſe excavations have been made; they know only that the wall in the inſide of the large grotto was conſtructed, in order to cloſe the opening of galleries which, they ſay, extend to a very conſiderable diſtance under ground, and to prevent the flocks which take ſhelter in theſe caverns, from penetrating too far within them, and being there loſt.

The environs of Prase, on the ſide of Kedros, furniſh a great quantity of wild artichokes, which the inhabitants of Argentiera go to gather, and eat with pleaſure.

Another ſmall harbour, fit only for the country barks, but extremely ſafe and quiet, is ſituated between Prase and San Nicolo; it is called *Semena*. The coaſt there is in like manner without habitations; and to proceed thither from Argentiera is a full

hour's journey, along a road exceſſively bad, from the quantity of rocks and ſtones with which it is covered. The point which bars the entrance of this haven to the ſouth, is crumbled away in a great meaſure, and it appeared to me almoſt entirely compoſed of wood petrified in maſſes, or irregular ſtrata. Petrifications of this ſort are to be found in ſeveral other parts of the iſland, ſometimes in blocks, ſometimes in ſtrata, and ſometimes in detached pieces, &c.

The ſhrub the moſt common on the ſurface of the Iſland of ARGENTIERA, is the lentiſk, called by the modern Greeks *ſkino cocco*. No other wood is there burnt, and from its fruit is expreſſed an oil which is good only for burning; however, the poor make uſe of it in their food. In other reſpects, this oil, which is called *ſkino lado*, is clear and of a beautiful gold colour, like the beſt olive oil. When it is two or three years old, it is, according to the Greeks, a very good topical remedy for rheumatic pains.

Saffron alſo grows naturally on the mountains, and between the rocks of the iſland. When it is in flower, poor people diſperſe to gather it, and it affords a little branch of trade for this miſerable country. The manner

ner of selling it, when it is dried, is not common in markets; it is weighed, but it is a hen's egg that serves as a weight. No attention is paid to the size of the egg, provided it have nothing extraordinary as to its dimensions: neither is it a consideration whether it be fresh or stale; it is necessary only that it be not boiled. It is, however, very certain that an egg weighs more when fresh; it is also evident that its size adds to its weight. The difference between a fresh egg and another of the same size that has been laid six days, is at least seven grains, and it may amount to twelve grains between eggs of various sizes. But the Greeks of the ARCHIPELAGO pay no attention to these differences, and the sale of their saffron has no other regulator than the weight of eggs.

When I was travelling in this country, the weight of an egg in saffron cost twenty-eight or thirty parats. The mean weight of common eggs, which we suppose to be five days old, is about an ounce, six drachms, and fifteen grains, or one thousand and thirty-nine grains. On the other hand, the TURKEY parat was, during the same period, valued at sixteen deniers *tournois*; it therefore results that the pound of dried saffron was, in 1778,

at ARGENTIERA, and in ſeveral other iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO, worth from about ſixteen livres, ſeven ſous, two deniers tournois, to ſeventeen livres, ten ſous, ſix deniers. At the ſame period, the common price of the pound of ſaffron of GATINOIS, avoirdupois, amounted to from twenty-four to thirty livres tournois: when it was not of the firſt quality, it was ſometimes ſold for rather leſs; but there was almoſt always near twice the difference between the ſaffron of FRANCE and that of the LEVANT, although the latter, as is well known, is of a quality infinitely ſuperior.

CHAPTER

CHAPTER XXVI.

Women of Argentiera.—*Calumnious ſtories of which they have been the ſubject.—Their morals.—Their dreſs.—Particular deſcription of their garments.—Their occupations.—Cotton ſtockings and caps.—Occupations of the men.—Flocks.—The management of them.—Cheeſe.—Iſland of* Polivo *or* Burnt Iſland.—*Its productions.—Advantages of poſſeſſing it.*

EVERY one knows that the ſhores on which navigators land in great numbers, are not always the ſeat of virtue and modeſty. When to this concourſe of ſtrangers, endeavouring, by a few tranſitory enjoyments, to make themſelves amends for the difficulties and privations of voyages, are added the corrupting gold of Commerce, and the means of which it can diſpoſe for ſeduction, deviations from virtue are more frequent, and morals border more on depravity. It is poſſible that formerly the Iſland of ARGENTIERA, poſſeſſed by Europeans, who there diſplayed

the vices of inveterate corruption, the neceſſary rendezvous of ſeveral ſhips which eſtabliſhed their cruiſing-ſtation in the ARCHIPELAGO, and the crews of which came thither to ſpend the produce of their rapine, and barter it away for pleaſures, which ceaſe to have charms as ſoon as they are purchaſed; it is poſſible, I ſay, and even rather probable, that this iſland may have then afforded ſcenes of gallantry ſufficiently repeated to become the picture of licentiouſneſs. But that this miſerable country, without commerce, and almoſt without induſtry, ſhould have been metamorphoſed into a temple of voluptuouſneſs; that navigators of all nations ſhould come thither to pay their homages to VENUS, and there depoſit their offerings; that travellers ſhould there have run as many riſks as TELEMACHUS in the Iſland of CYPRUS, and that they ſhould even have come off with leſs glory than that young Greek, having no MENTOR to ſnatch them from ſo dangerous a place*, theſe are unfaithful pictures, at beſt fit to be introduced into a romance, ſince they ſerve only to give birth to falſe ideas of a country reſpecting which

* *Lettres Cabaliſtes du Marquis d'*ARGENS, vol. ii. Hague edition, 1770, page 108.

they convey images traced by exaggeration. TOURNEFORT had received the ſame impreſſions on the ſubject of ARGENTIERA; but he appears ſurpriſed not to find that pitiful country ſo corrupted as he had repreſented it to himſelf. "This iſland," ſays he, "is "become quite poor, ſince the king no longer "ſuffers any French privateers in the LE-"VANT. ARGENTIERA was their rendezvous, "and they there ſpent, in horrible debauch-"eries, what they had juſt plundered from "the Turks. The ladies took advantage of "the circumſtance; they neither are the moſt "cruel, nor the moſt uncomely: this is the "moſt dangerous ſhoal in the ARCHIPE-"LAGO; but one muſt be very unſkilful to "ſtrike on it*." It is ſeen clearly, from this paſſage in TOURNEFORT's narrative, that that traveller ſpeaks only of what he had read or heard, and not of what he himſelf ſaw on the ſpot: and not having had time to obſerve the morals of a country in which he, as it were, did no more than make his appearance, he ſacrifices to his prejudices, by ſtill throwing ſome diſgrace on the private life of the women by whom it is inhabited.

* *Voyage au Levant*, 4to edition, vol. i. page 141.

But

But if ſuch imputations appear evidently exaggerated, when we carry them back to periods already remote, they are truly calumnious when we apply them to the time preſent. It is an error of ſome modern travellers, prepoſſeſſed by the accounts of thoſe who have preceded them. M. DE CHOISEUL-GOUFFIER, who has paid ſome attention to ARGENTIERA, has ſaid nothing of the kind: he contents himſelf with ſpeaking of the diſburſements that the crews of Chriſtian privateers, who formerly infeſted the ARCHIPELAGO with their robberies, came thither during the winter to make diſburſements, for which they made the inhabitants pay very dear, from the vexations with which they tormented them. He alſo mentions a cuſtom which theſe ſame privateer's men had eſtabliſhed there, and of which our navigators ſtill avail themſelves at MADAGASCAR, that of ſolemnly marrying for the time of their ſtay in port; ſo that a new lover impatiently waited for the departure of a captain, in order to wed his wife, as ſoon as he ſhould have ſet ſail*.

* *Voyage Pittoreſque de la Grèce*, folio, page 9.

It is very certain that this diſſoluteneſs of morals, with which the women of ARGENTIERA are reproached with ſo much bitterneſs and injuſtice, cannot be imputed to thoſe of our days. They are endowed with modeſty and reſerve, which are the ordinary appendage of the women of the EAST; and during a rather long ſtay which I made among them, I ſaw but one ſingle inſtance of a glaring deviation from thoſe virtues more rigidly obſerved in the LEVANT than elſewhere. An unmarried woman, who was no longer in her prime, but who had preſerved ſome ſhare of youth and beauty, without relations, and living alone, was rather forced than ſeduced by a young Frenchman; ſhe had long oppoſed a warm reſiſtance to the importunities of the moſt ardent paſſion. In the middle of the night, ſhe heard near her bed her impetuous lover: the door had not been open; he had come down by the chimney. An attack ſo ſudden and ſo unforeſeen was ſucceſsful, and attended with conſequences too apparent. The *vaivode*, always on the watch for every thing that can increaſe his income, ſet up for the avenger of outraged morals, and impoſed on this unfortunate victim of imprudent love a very heavy fine, which it was neceſſary

neceſſary to pay; nor could any entreaty obtain a mitigation of a penalty inflicted by a tyrant whom cupidity rendered inexorable.

Indeed, a puniſhment ſo ſevere announces not the general diſſoluteneſs of morals, with which writers have endeavoured to tarniſh the women of ARGENTIERA; and theſe lines which I have conſecrated to their reputation, are no leſs the expreſſion of a ſentiment of juſtice than that of gratitude, for the attentions and tranquillity which I enjoyed in their country.

Theſe women poſſeſs, in general, the advantages of ſhape and face; but they ſpoil them by the manner in which they dreſs themſelves. It is certainly the ſtrangeſt garb that can be imagined, and a woman muſt have many charms, for them not to diſappear under garments ſo groteſque. The drawing which I give (*Plate VI.*) of this dreſs was made from a doll quite clothed and arranged in the country itſelf.

An Indian ſhawl, that is, a tiſſue of fine wool, and moſt commonly of a dark green with ſpots of a dull red and clouded with green, ſurrounds the head and forehead, and ſuffers nothing to be ſeen there but two little locks of ſmooth and black hair, which fall on

on each temple. It is a luxury not only at ARGENTIERA, but in the other iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO and in ſome other parts of the LEVANT, to add to theſe tufts of hair ſmall curling feathers of a beautiful velvety and ſhining black, or rather of a very deep azure blue, which the males of certain ſpecies of wild ducks have on the rump, two on each ſide. Theſe little feathers, a ſimple ornament, but which is not deſtitute of agreeableneſs, are carefully collected. The women place ſome of them under their ſhawl, and ſuffer their curling points to appear on the forehead and temples, where their metallic reflections throw a gentle and coloured luſtre, which varies every moment according to the different lights under which they appear.

The hair is enveloped and braided with roſe colour riband: this braid is rolled on the crown of the head, and confined with a ſmall black riband; it is ſurmounted by a large ſtreamer of red ribands. To the back of the head is faſtened a long piece of ſilk, trimmed with a broad gold net lace, which falls and waves behind. On the neck is a collar of gold, jet, or pearls, from which hangs a croſs. A broad piece of red velvet, covered with gold net lace, and bordered at the

the top with a ſky-blue riband, or a bit of gold or ſilver brocade, covers the breaſt and the throat, above another piece of cotton. A ſort of ſilk apron, trimmed down its middle and below with gold net lace, is faſtened beneath the ſtomacher, and reaches no lower than the knees; a red riband, in the form of a girdle, and one end of which falls down on each ſide, ſerves to confine the handkerchief which hangs on the left. The ſhift, which is, for theſe women, the richeſt article of their dreſs, made of ſilk, falls in front below the ſort of apron which I have juſt mentioned; it is trimmed with roſe colour riband, on which is applied the lace or open gold net work, which conſtitutes all the luxury of the garments. Poor women uſe tinſel, and ſometimes coarſe lace made with cotton thread. The ſhift comes no lower than the knees, below which are tied the ſtrings of the cotton drawers, which all the women wear in the EAST. But the moſt extraordinary part of the dreſs is the ſleeves of the ſhift, enormous ſleeves, confined firſt on the fore arm with a roſe colour riband, then turned up and faſtened to the ſhoulder in ſuch a manner as to be raiſed extremely high, ſo that the head appears buried and concealed on each

each ſide between the ſhoulders. Theſe ſleeves, open and trimmed with gold net lace, hang down in a point as low as the leg, and entirely cover the ſides of the body. The ſame piece of velvet or brocade ſtuff worn on the breaſt is tied behind; a ſmall ſilver lace cord falls on each ſhoulder, and three large ſtreamers of riband are faſtened acroſs the back; that of the middle is bright blue; the other two are roſe colour. Two thick pieces of cotton, in very cloſe folds, hang down, at the ſame time increaſing in width, the one over the other, along the back, as far as the middle of the thighs: theſe pieces of cotton are ſtiff, do not bend, and appear like little mattreſſes applied to the body of the perſon who is loaded with them. A roſe colour riband, faſtened to the upper piece, and tied in front underneath the apron, prevents it from riſing.

It is not a merit in the women of ARGENTIERA, to have their legs ſlender and gracefully moulded; on the contrary, they employ no ſmall degree of art to render them equally thick throughout all their length, and to give them the appearance of real poſts. They put on ſeveral pairs of half ſtockings of different ſizes, one over the other, in order to fill up

the ſmall of the leg and make it even with the calf. As theſe parts are expoſed to view as high as the knees, they take pains to adorn them; they are covered with a velvet ſtocking, and a ſmall ſilver lace-cord is faſtened to it before and behind. The covering for the feet conſiſts of a ſort of ſlipper of ſilk, brocaded with gold or ſilver, with a heel by no means high, a ſole very thin, and the point ſharp and turned up.

The dreſs which I have juſt deſcribed is that of parade: the women generally wear one more plain; but which, however, is compoſed of ſeveral pieces, more coarſe and leſs ornamented; ſo that on feſtivals, as on working days, they alike appear ſhapeleſs maſſes of linen or cloth.

The habitual occupation of theſe women, ſo ſingularly clothed, is to ſpin cotton, and to knit it into ſtockings and caps. At home, as well as in the ſtreets, they are ſeen with the ſpindle or the knitting-needles in their hand. They make uſe of a ſpindle, which is nothing more than an iron rod turned ſpirally in its middle, and the top of which is bent like a hook, in order to hold the cotton. Stockings, which they manufacture with much care, are, correctly ſpeaking, the only trade

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of their iſland. Navigators take them for their own wear, and in parcels: they are to be had at all prices, from twenty parats, or about twenty-ſeven ſous, to four dollars, or ten or eleven livres the pair. The ſtockings of this latter price are very fine and excellent wear, as well as the knit caps, manufactured by the ſame hands; and it is, undoubtedly, to the prohibitions which clogged the trade of the LEVANT, that we muſt attribute the little knowledge that we had in FRANCE of theſe uſeful articles, which deſerved to be introduced into the traffic that we carried on with thoſe countries.

While the women ſpin and knit, the men engage in different kinds of employments. Some, proprietors of boats, navigate and trade in the ARCHIPELAGO during the ſummer, and return to paſs the winter at home, and there enjoy in peace the fruit of their induſtry: others apply themſelves to fiſhing, very few to killing game, and ſome to agriculture; the pooreſt claſs cut and root up the ſhrubs which grow on the mountains, and bring them, on the back of ſorry aſſes, to the village, where their branches and winding roots are the only wood that is burnt for the dreſſing of food; laſtly, others of the

ſame indigent claſs undertake to tend flocks of ſheep and goats; for there are not, in this iſland, either oxen, or cows, or any other ſpecies of cattle.

I have already obſerved, that agriculture was at ARGENTIERA in the moſt wretched condition, although the iſland afforded ſeveral diſtricts capable of yielding a rich produce; neither are the flocks very numerous. They are formed of ſheep belonging to different perſons: never do the animals which compoſe them approach the habitations; they are not at all acquainted with ſheds; always ſtraying from mountain to mountain, they are brought forth and live in the open air; ſome large caverns ſerve them as a ſhelter againſt ſtorms, and their keepers ſhare this ſhelter, as well as their wandering life.

Theſe ſhepherds of the iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO are not hirelings; they are a ſort of farmers, who receive ewes and goats from the inhabitants, on condition of furniſhing them with a quantity of wool and cheeſe proportionate to the number of the animals, and to account for the ordinary produce of the ewes; ſo that, at the expiration of a few years, a man finds himſelf the poſſeſſor of a little flock, which has conſtantly furniſhed

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an almoſt daily income, without having coſt either trouble or expenſe. This method of breeding ſheep is more advantageous to the proprietors and to the animals themſelves, which are more healthy and more robuſt, and whoſe fleece is improved by this entirely agreſtic life; but it cannot be adopted but in mountainous countries, where Agriculture has not extended her domain: in other places, that want might be ſupplied by extenſive parks, encloſure in the open air, and, above all, by the proſcription of low and ſwampy ſheep-folds, ſuch as are ſeen in ſeveral of our departments.

Moſt of the diſorders by which our flocks are attacked, through the effect of humidity and corruption, are unknown in the LEVANT. Veterinary treatment, which is become among us a difficult art, becauſe we have choſen that the diet of our animals, like our own, ſhould deviate from the rules which Nature preſcribes, would there be an art almoſt uſeleſs. Experience, that guide more ſure than the inductions of medical theory, has made ſimple ſhepherds the phyſicians of their flocks, as they are their inſeparable companions. They do not load themſelves with drugs; Nature is at all the trouble of the preparations, and

their pharmacy is ſcattered over the very places which they traverſe. The remedies are ſimple, like the complaints: I have remembered one which, among the ſhepherds of the EAST, is reckoned very efficacious in putrid diſeaſes in ſheep: this is ſwallow's dung, diſſolved in water, and given as a drink.

It is alſo on the very mountains, and in the midſt of their flocks, that the ſhepherds make, with the milk of ewes and goats, prepared in the open air in large braſs veſſels, little cheeſes, formed in ruſh moulds, and of which the Greeks, ſtrict obſervers of ſeveral Lents, make a great conſumption. Theſe cheeſes are very good, ſalted, and preſerved; but freſh, they are delicious.

A few inhabitants of MILO and ARGENTIERA have alſo flocks on the Iſland of POLIVO, which the Europeans call *BURNT ISLAND*, becauſe the Venetians, during the long wars that they had to maintain againſt the Turks, deſtroyed by fire the olive-trees with which it was covered. Flocks are the only inhabitants of this iſland; it nevertheleſs deſerves to have others. In fact, the quantity of olive-trees which there ſubſiſted, indicates the goodneſs of its ſoil; and the ſmall number which is ſtill

cultivated

cultivated on the weſt coaſt, oppoſite to ARGENTIERA, produces abundant crops.

POLYVO, or *BURNT ISLAND*, lies to the eaſt of ARGENTIERA, and is ſeparated from it only by a channel a quarter of a league wide. At the period of my travels, it belonged to different individuals of MILO and ARGENTIERA; but they were not in a condition, or rather they were afraid to turn it to account, leſt they ſhould attract the attention and extortions of the Turks. They were endeavouring to diſpoſe of it; and, but for the difficulties which a Frenchman then experienced in eſtabliſhing himſelf in TURKEY, I would have become the purchaſer. The little produce which the poſſeſſors drew from it, rendered it an acquiſition by no means expenſive, and ſuch that a few acres of land could not have been obtained in FRANCE at the ſame price. The iſland is, nevertheleſs, four or five leagues in circumference: culture might there be extended ſo as to leave but about the fourth of the ſoil, which, from its nature, would remain uncultivated. This conſiſts of hills, partly covered by rocks, between which grow various plants and ſhrubs. Theſe hills, although not cultivated, would not be unproductive; flocks would there find an

abundant food; lentiſks and junipers would yield wood and oil. Nature has planted between the rocks bulbs of ſaffron, in the midſt of other vegetable productions, uſeful, though wild. The very rocks likewiſe offer their tribute; in their boſom are found carnelians of ſeveral colours, but moſt commonly of a yellow orange colour; and agates, of a yellow and tranſparent gray, which may be conſidered as a ſpecies of ſardonyx. An excavation, ſupported by poſts, indicates ancient mineralogical labours, and it might be poſſible to renew them with advantage.

To the culture of various ſpecies of corn, cotton, &c. to the collection of wool, one might join the rearing of bees, which ſcarcely require any care in a climate in which they much delight; and it is well known that wax is, in the LEVANT, a very profitable article of trade. The ſituation of POLIVO at the entrance of the ARCHIPELAGO, in the vicinity of a great number of iſlands, forming a road, the common anchoring-place for veſſels that navigate in theſe ſeas, would give birth to an infinite number of commercial ſpeculations, which could not fail to be very productive. On the coaſt, facing ARGENTIERIA, are two coves, into one of which ſhips can enter. At a trifling

a trifling expenſe, one might build on the ſhore, and within reach of a ſpring of freſh water, a convenient habitation, whoſe poſition, though a little ſolitary, would be agreeable and pictureſque: one might there paſs, in comfort, and in pleaſant and uſeful occupations, a quiet and happy life; and when, after long travels and perſevering labours, I ſaw myſelf ſurrounded by all kinds of troubles and treacheries, I regretted more than once not having endeavoured to remove the obſtacles which oppoſed the acquiſition of the peaceful Iſland of POLIVO. In an abode neither too retired, nor too much expoſed to the noiſy agitations of ſociety, I ſhould probably have met with tranquillity and happineſs, from which a fatality, by no means common, has always kept me at a diſtance.

CHAPTER

CHAPTER XXVII.

General obſervations on the manners and cuſtoms of the Greeks of the Archipelago.—*Their mode of life.—Their mind extremely inclined to ſuperſtition.—Manner in which mothers correct their children.—Method practiſed in the delivery of women.—Attention paid, in the* Archipelago, *to new-born children.—Precautions taken concerning them.—Pretended influence of ſiniſter looks on children, men, and animals.*

I HAD made of the Iſland of ARGENTIERA, and of the very neighbouring one of MILO, which will preſently be ſpoken of, the ſpot whither I repaired after my different excurſions in the ARCHIPELAGO. The number of European veſſels which put in there, the reſidence of an agent of our nation, the tranquillity which there reigned, the greater facility of there obtaining certain information reſpecting countries where ſincerity and truth are not prevailing virtues—every thing induced

duced me to return frequently to one of theſe two iſlands, and to make a ſtay there at ſeveral periods. There it was that I penned the notes and obſervations which I had collected, and which have ſerved as materials for this work: it ſeems natural to me to inſert them here; and although they, for the moſt part, refer to the inhabitants of ſeveral other iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO, as they are common to the Iſlands of ARGENTIERA and MILO, they are not at all miſplaced in the articles which treat of thoſe two countries. They conſiſt of general obſervations on the manners of the deſcendants of a great people, at this day ſubjugated by a barbarous nation: it is the moral hiſtory of the Greeks of the ARCHIPELAGO; and the picture which I am going to preſent of them will exempt me from repetitions that would become unavoidable, if I wiſhed to ſpeak in particular of ſeveral tribes ſcattered over all the eminences which tower above the ſurface of the ÆGEAN SEA, and on which the men, with the exception of a few ſhades, have the ſame qualities and the ſame cuſtoms. The reader will find, in this ſame picture, what is general in thoſe cuſtoms and thoſe qualities; and he will have nothing more to do than to viſit rapidly with me the

other iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO, and there to remark the particularities which diſtinguiſh their phyſical ſtate and the moral character of their inhabitants.

The life of the Greeks of the ARCHIPELAGO is ſimple; luxury dares not make its appearance, becauſe the tyrant is continually on the watch, and ready to fall on the produce of induſtry, as ſoon as it beſpeaks riches ſomewhat conſiderable. The Greek gives himſelf up only by ſtealth to the ſpeculations of commerce; and if they make any diſplay through too great ſucceſs, he trembles for his fortune, ſometimes even for his life. Rural labours would deſtroy too much the effects of induſtry, a ſecret which he is forced to conceal with care: thence reſults that the fields are uncultivated, that the wretchedneſs of the country finds its way into the inhabited places, and that one ſeldom perceives there the ſigns of a dangerous opulence.

The Greeks of antiquity have been reproached with having a mind prone to ſuperſtition; this inclination has increaſed in proportion as Ignorance has ſhaded, with her gloomy wings, countries which the arts and ſciences have not been able to ſecure from ſuperſtitious credulity. In the time of the

Greek

Greek emperors, this weakneſs appeared to have attained its higheſt pitch; the people were given, in a ſurpriſing manner, to preſtiges, enchantments, and practices the moſt abſurd; and it may be conceived whether, in our days, when Slavery, the moſt powerful promoter of the degradation of nations, has united her ſiniſter efforts to an ignorance ever increaſing, that old diſpoſition to errors have not ſtruck roots more deep and more numerous. The chriſtian religion even is become, among this people, a new ſource of ſuperſtitions. That religion, of celeſtial origin, which men, and more particularly the ambition of prieſts, have ſpoiled, conſiſts, for a Greek, only in ceremonies, in minute obſervances, in a multitude of practices. To him the ſublime moral of the Goſpel is nothing; and provided he faſt ſcrupulouſly, pronounce words which he conſiders as magical, and be exact in ceremonies, even foreign to thoſe of religion, he is perſuaded that all his duties are performed, and that nothing can prevent him from giving himſelf up to exceſſes againſt ſociety. It is not uncommon to ſee Greek pirates, addicted to all ſorts of robberies, fancy themſelves in full

full enjoyment of a ſafe conſcience, becauſe they ſtrictly obſerve Lent, and recite oriſons.

Among the cuſtoms of the Greeks of the ARCHIPELAGO, there are, no doubt, ſome which are derived from antiquity. The EAST is by no means the abode of frivolity, nor of a fickle and changing diſpoſition; cuſtoms are there conſtantly maintained, and we love to find again, even in the moſt familiar details of private life, thoſe with which we have been acquainted by the peruſal of ancient works. It is, for example, ſtill a cuſtom of the mothers of theſe countries to whip, as in former times, their children with the flexible and elaſtic branches of the *agnus caſtus*.

If we examine the Greek of the ARCHIPELAGO in the moſt ſolemn periods of civil life, we ſee him always abandoned to the abſurd caprices of ignorance, and executing the moſt whimſical things, with as much ſincerity as ſerioufneſs. At his birth, he is ſurrounded by the whole train of ſuperſtition, and he remains accompanied by it during the courſe of his life. The manner in which he comes into the world is too ſingular, for me not to make expreſs mention of it: we have every reaſon to be ſurpriſed that, among the great number of travellers who have viſited the

the LEVANT, and particularly the Iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO, no one has known the method which is there practiſed in the delivery of women, a method truly curious and extraordinary, but which our women will not, undoubtedly, be tempted to adopt. I had an opportunity of being preſent at the delivery of a woman of theſe countries; and as I am the firſt who has ſpoken of it, I ſhall enter into a few details on a ſubject ſo intereſting to the hiſtory of man.

I ſhall firſt obſerve, that the young woman, at whoſe delivery I was preſent, was not more than eighteen years of age: ſhe was tall, well made, of a ſtrong conſtitution, and of a beauty which the Greeks of antiquity would have envied. The forerunners of child-birth manifeſted themſelves at ſupper-time: the young woman was conducted to her chamber, whither I had permiſſion to attend her. The midwife, a woman much advanced in years, and whoſe knowledge and experience were highly extolled, arrived, accompanied by a female aſſiſtant, almoſt as old as herſelf, but of a countenance leſs ſingular and leſs ſtrongly marked. A painter, who might have wiſhed to repreſent a ſibyl, would not have been able to chooſe a better model;

every

every thing in it announced the appearance of a ſorcereſs, and her anſwers to the queſtions which I aſked her might, from their obſcurity, paſs for ſo many oracles. She likewiſe carried a ſort of tripod, the uſe of which I was far from conceiving: this very ſingular article of furniture is not of one entire piece of wood. Two pieces, rounded and ſomewhat convex on the outſide, are united at the acute angle, and ſupport at their junction a flat piece, fit for ſitting on: the whole is enveloped and very negligently trimmed with old linen-cloths, and ſupported by three legs, very low, and as rudely wrought as the reſt, one of which confines the ſort of ſtool to the angle, and the other two are placed under the two branches and towards their extremity. The firſt concern of the midwife was to cauſe the locks of the doors, boxes, trunks, and, indeed, every thing that could lock in the houſe, to be opened. This precaution of keeping every thing wide open, founded on a very whimſical analogy, is not, on any account, to be neglected, if it be wiſhed that the delivery ſhould experience no difficulties; and, through a conſequence of this ridiculous prejudice, none but married women are ſuffered in it, virgins being abſolutely baniſhed.

baniſhed. I was alſo informed, that if I wiſhed to be preſent, I muſt determine to ſtay in the room till the delivery was completely terminated. This is a rule which no one can infringe. From the moment that the labour begins, thoſe who are in the apartment can no longer leave it, nor can thoſe who are without any longer enter it. The former incur even a ſort of ſtain, which deprives them of all communication with other perſons, till a prieſt, who is apprized on this ſubject, has given them his bleſſing, and freed them from the impurity which it is fancied that they have contracted.

In the mean time Nature began to act; the efforts which ſhe excited, for haſtening the birth of a new being, were increaſed and become more frequent; every thing announced an eaſy labour and a happy delivery. During the continuance of this action of the child on the mother, the latter did not remain idle; ſhe was compelled to walk inceſſantly about her room: if pain, a little weakneſs, or faintheartedneſs, made her deſirous to take a moment's reſt, the two old women ſupported her under the arms, and obliged her to walk; and, in truth, ſhe appeared to me to have no inclination to do ſo. When the pains came on,

they made her lean and bend herſelf forward on her bed, and the midwife, placed behind her, ſtrongly preſſed her ſides with both her hands, which ſhe held there againſt them till the pain was over, and that ſoon happened: then the walking recommenced, till a freſh pain interrupted it, and occaſioned the woman to be put in a ſituation to experience freſh preſſures from the hands of the midwife.

I am not ſufficiently verſed in the knowledge of the mechaniſm which Nature employs on this occaſion, to determine, whether the method of preſſing ſtrongly the hands on the lower part of a woman's back, at the very moment of her pains, be a ſalutary or hurtful method; all that I can affirm is, that it is generally in uſe in the countries which I am deſcribing, and in which deliveries are almoſt always fortunate. I ſhall add, that I obſerved from them a good effect, at leaſt in appearance; for the pains were not long, although ſucceeding each other rapidly, and the young woman who experienced them did not ſeem much affected by them. However, having conſulted on this point a phyſician who has acquired in our days a great name in the art of midwifery, he has diſapproved of

of this practice, which he conſiders as very vicious, and I give, as a note, what he has been pleaſed to communicate to me on this ſubject *.

Could

Paris, 13th Niveſe, year IX, (2d January, 1801.)

* After having, with no leſs pleaſure than intereſt, not only heard but meditated on the obſervations which M. SONNINI has been kind enough to communicate to me verbally and in writing, reſpecting the proceedings employed before and after the delivery of the Greek women, I exclaimed, Oh! a thouſand times happy are the countries where all the united efforts of routine, ignorance, and fanaticiſm, have not been able to ſucceed in diſappointing the wiſh of Nature, in the exerciſe of the moſt important function of animal economy.

" During the labours of child-birth, the midwives," you ſay, Sir, " make the patient lean and bend herſelf for-" ward at every freſh pain, while the matron, placed be-" hind her, preſſes her ſides, with a view of aſſiſting the " labour."

Your natural ſagacity, Sir, will ſee the demonſtration of ſo vicious a practice, and the abſurdity of which the lights of reaſon alone had made you partly conceive, without the aſſiſtance of the principles of art.

The relative ſituation of the baſin is ſuch, that, when the woman is erect, the projection of the *ſacrum*, or poſterior part, is more elevated by three inches than the anterior part, or upper edge of the ſymphiſus pubis. From this anatomical fact, you will judge, that the upper or large baſin forms a very inclined plane, on which the full grown fœtus is ſupported before by the ſtraight muſcles,

Could any doubt ariſe reſpecting this practice, unuſual among us, every one will agree without difficulty that nothing is more cruel,

whoſe faſtenings, direction, and tendinous interſections, ſufficiently indicate the uſes for which they are intended.

If a woman in labour be made to bend forward, what is the conſequence? 1. The uterus, and the foreign bodies contained in its cavity, recede more or leſs from the baſin. 2. All the abdominal muſcles being, on account of this poſture, in a complete ſtate of relaxation, cannot oppoſe the fall of the belly of the woman in labour. 3. The orifice of the uterus being conſtantly oppoſed to the extremity of that viſcus, the more the extremity is inclined forward, the more its orifice muſt be inclined in the ſame manner backward in the bend of the *ſacrum*. 4. The natural pains of child-birth, or contractions of the uterus, having no efficacy but as long as the axis of the body of the child, parallel to that of the uterus, anſwers to the centre of the baſin, it follows that, in caſes of obliquity, the pains are loſt, exhauſt to no purpoſe the ſtrength of the woman in labour, and render the delivery more or leſs laborious.

I therefore conclude, from experience and obſervation, that of all the ſituations taken by women in labour, the moſt vicious, the moſt diametrically oppoſite to the end that is propoſed, is moſt certainly that to which the ignorance and the routine of the Greek matrons ſubject the Greek women. As for the efforts which they add to the viciouſneſs of the ſituation, we may conſider them as freſh obſtacles to the delivery; and if theſe manœuvres do not increaſe the number of victims, it is not moſt aſſuredly the fault of the art.

nor

nor, at the ſame time, more contrary to the notions received, than the manner in which child-birth is terminated in the iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO. Yet there is not, perhaps, any country on earth, where deliveries are more eaſy, more happy, and leſs attended by fatal accidents, than that in which every thing is, in a manner, reſorted to for bringing about thoſe accidents, and cauſing Nature to repent of the favours which ſhe has laviſhed on the women, by decorating them with the brilliant forms of beauty, and granting them courage and ſtrength to reſiſt the violence employed towards them, at the period when the quality of mother comes to develop in their ardent ſoul new and precious affections.

But this ſort of indulgence of Nature is the reward of a ſimple and regular life, ſtill more than the effect of climate. A beautiful ſky, an atmoſphere which the ſeverity of our hoar-froſts never condenſes, which the gentle breath of ſpring-zephyrs inceſſantly warms, which ſalutary emanations impregnate with the principles of health and vigour, doubtleſs, contribute to the good fortune that the women enjoy of eſcaping the dangers which await them, and which are preparing for them. But in this, as on other occaſions, phyſiologiſts have

granted too much to the power of climate; and when we wiſh to explain every thing, it is certain, that the temperature of a country frequently comes very opportunely to relieve from embarraſſment him who has undertaken a taſk ſo difficult to be accompliſhed. And, in order not to deviate from my ſubject, I ſhall aſk, how we ſhould contrive to make the influence of a climate which, it is admitted, gives to the people who inhabit it the ſtature and the corpulence of vigour, agree with that other influence of the ſame climate, by which we ſuppoſe that the fibres and the fleſh of the women there become ſoftened, to render deliveries by no means painful? Are not ſtrength and energy of the phyſical conſtitution on the one hand, ſoftneſs and relaxation on the other, oppoſite and contradictory qualities, when we wiſh to impoſe them on the ſame object?

Vigour of conſtitution, which affords the faculty of paſſing with a firm ſtep through the rugged career of life, is likewiſe to be found among the nations which live under a burning ſky, and in the midſt of the tribes which walk on a ſoil of ſnow and ice. The inhabitants of SENEGAL and of JALOFF are perhaps the handſomeſt as well as the ſtrongeſt

of

of men; and the negreſs of the ſame countries, with a ſkin of a brilliant jet, with firm and elaſtic fleſh, brings her children into the world with ſtill greater facility than the Greek woman, and, nevertheleſs, preſerves that ſolidity of form, that tone of fibres, the certain marks of ſtrength and health. Whether we approach Hyperborean lands, or viſit the Antarctic ſhores, which intrepid navigators have added to the chart of the world, we there ſee diſpatch and eaſe in deliveries; and the women, like thoſe of AFRICA, there preſerve the juſt proportion of form.

It is not, therefore, the temperature of the atmoſphere that gives to women that happy habit of body which procures eaſy delivery. Without diſallowing that it may not be regarded in them as a ſecondary cauſe, it is an error to preſent it as the principal one, ſince, in its two extremes, it affords nearly the ſame reſults. Great heat, which, it is ſaid, mollifies the fleſh and relaxes the fibres, effects not thoſe diſagreeable changes only on the women who are not born in that country. It is on that account that the European woman, tranſplanted into the WEST INDIES, has ſoon the mortification to ſee her cheeks loſe their colour, and her charms fade away; and that ſhe

who is there born of European parents, has the complexion of a perfect white, indeed, but which, becauſe it is uniform, without being animated by the ſoft bluſh of the roſe, beſpeaks languor, flaccidity, and weakneſs.

A cauſe more certain than that of the difference of climate, has produced the diſparity which is obſervable in the conſtitution of different people. A long ſucceſſion of moderation and temperance tranſmit, from generation to generation, the precious inheritance of a vigorous conſtitution, and preſerve to the muſcles and fibres the tenſion neceſſary for the ſupport of the fleſhy parts, and the regularity of the outlines. If, in our countries, beauty has ſo frequently to lament the loſs of its deareſt advantages; if, under the moſt faſcinating exterior, it has no longer any thing remaining but a mortifying diſfiguration, it is to the irregular life, to exceſſes of every kind, the ſymptoms of which are tranſmitted and grow worſe from age to age, that we muſt attribute theſe afflicting diſorders. It is not aſtoniſhing that delicate and feeble beings, who have ſcarcely ſtrength to exiſt, experience conſiderable embarraſſment in procuring life to other beings, deſtined, for the moſt part, to the ſame languiſhing exiſtence.

The

The wiſh of Nature, often called in queſtion, is more frequently eluded; women dread to become mothers, becauſe continual diſſipation ſtifles in their heart innate ſentiments; as a mode of life, in which Nature is inceſſantly counteracted, has almoſt deprived them of the ſtrength to become ſo. The art of midwifery has attained the point at which it has arrived among us, that is, an art replete with difficulties, only becauſe our women are become knowing in the art of creating for themſelves an exiſtence, as it were, preternatural; and were it poſſible not to pity them, for thus ſacrificing their charms and their real happineſs, we ſhould ceaſe to remark, with ſo much concern, the impreſſion of intemperance in the painful circumſtance of delivery, and in the diſorder which is frequently the conſequence of it, a diſorder which ſcarcely ever attacks the Greek women, whoſe happy conſtitution, ſtrengthened by ſimple habits and regular manners, has need only of a little aſſiſtance at the moment of child-birth, and renders art uſeleſs.

Accordingly, the profeſſion of man-midwife is there entirely unknown, and were any to make their appearance, they would meet with a very ungracious reception, and remain in complete

complete inaction. In the firſt place, public morals have preſerved in the EAST exterior auſterity; which, if it do not always conſtitute their individual purity, ſhews, at leaſt, that the habit of reſpecting them is a national character: men would not there be ſuffered to apply themſelves to the practice of midwifery; and without having read HECQUET'S* book, it would there be conſidered as the height of indecency, for a woman to have recourſe to a man-midwife.

Beſides, Nature takes on herſelf almoſt all the trouble of an operation, which, in our countries, is reckoned a delicate one; and the midwife that is called in, wedded to a vulgar routine, is frequently miſtaken as to the means which ſhe employs for aſſiſting Nature. If any difficulty occur, the midwife has recourſe to ſuperſtitious practices; to this is limited her ſcience; the caſes in which ſhe is obliged to recur to them, fortunately, happen very ſeldom, and a difficult labour is there a very extraordinary event.

During the time which I paſſed in the chamber of the young Greek woman in la-

* HECQUET, a very pious phyſician, has compoſed a work *on the indecency of men delivering women.*

hour,

bour, I put to the midwife various queſtions reſpecting her practice; I aſked her, for inſtance, what ſhe did in deliveries where the child did not preſent itſelf naturally? She aſſured me, that this hardly ever happened to her; but that then ſhe ſtrove to make the child take a ſuitable poſition, and that if ſhe could not ſucceed in this, ſhe had remaining a reſource which, ſhe aſſured me, was infallible for relieving her from embarraſſment: this was to apply to the huſband, who, in the opinion of the women of this country, poſſeſſes in an eminent degree the power of removing every obſtacle that oppoſes the delivery of his wife; and this magic power conſiſts in three taps which the man is to give with his ſhoe on the patient's back, at the ſame time pronouncing in a loud voice theſe words: "*It is I who have loaded thee with this burden; I now remove it.*"

At length the critical moment arrived. The young woman was made to ſit on the fatal tripod: the deſcription which I have given of this ſort of ſeat ſufficiently indicates the poſition of the woman; an air of candour and inquietude rendered her extremely intereſting, and her features, the elegant model of youth and beauty, appeared by no means affected

fected by pain. The midwife placed herſelf in front of her, and a little below her, and the female aſſiſtant ſat down behind her on a higher ſeat, and embraced her tightly with her arms round the waiſt.

The child preſently made its appearance; and as ſoon as it was ſeparated from the afterbirth, the aſſiſtant, with a vigorous arm, lifted up the lying-in-woman repeatedly, and perpendicularly above the tripod, on which ſhe ſuffered her to fall again with much roughneſs. I could not get the better of my aſtoniſhment to ſee this intereſting woman, abandoned to a manœuvre which appeared to me equally abſurd and revolting; ſhe was thus unmercifully ſhaken till ſhe was entirely delivered, and very fortunately that was ere long accompliſhed. This violent proceeding, in general uſe, is a mean which the Greek women conſider indiſpenſable for completing the delivery; and accidents are ſeldom the conſequence of it, although it may appear likely to occaſion numerous ones. "Violent and "repeated joltings," ſays SACOMBE, in a letter to me on this ſubject, "cannot but in-"flame parts already bruiſed and fatigued by "the paſſage of the child, and produce de-"ſcents, or, at leaſt, relaxations of the uterus

"and

" and vagina, uterine hæmorrhages, ſyncope,
" and convulſive attacks. If phyſical con-
" ſtitution preſerve the Greek women from
" the fatal conſequences of this bad practice,
" we muſt congratulate them on being born
" under a ſky ſo favoured by Nature*."

Whatever may be the ſolidity of the motives of the cenſure which ſound phyſicians pronounce againſt ſo rough a method of haſtening the delivery of a woman, it would be difficult to ſucceed in cauſing it to be abandoned in a country where experience has ſhewn, that it is not attended with unhappy conſequences. I ſaw, with ſurpriſe, that the lying-in woman herſelf did not complain of it; and that, after a trial in appearance ſo cruel, ſhe went and placed herſelf, of her own accord, in a bed, without appearing either too much weakened, or too much oppreſſed by fatigue. A few moments of repoſe reſtored her to a ſtate truly unexpected; the colour of her face had a tint leſs lively, but it was ſtill roſy: ſhe received, without conſtraint, a crowd of congratulations, and replied to them as if ſhe had been in the moſt tranquil ſituation.

* Letter from SACOMBE to SONNINI, dated PARIS, 13 Nivoſe, year ix. (2d January, 1801.)

I wiſhed

I wiſhed to aſcertain the treatment to which the Greek women are ſubjected after their lying-in; and of this it conſiſts. Immediately after the delivery, the woman is ſurrounded by a broad linen roller, from the boſom to the loins, and it is drawn very tight: Here, European practice exclaims anew to reprobate this bandage. "All mechanical "compreſſion on the belly of a woman, newly "brought to bed, is very dangerous, from "the diſpoſition of the abdominal cavity and "an approaching inflammation. The weight "of the child, during nine months of pregnancy, the ſucceſſive contractions of the "uterus, or the violent pains of child-birth, "irritate that viſcus and inflame it; all "compreſſion muſt, therefore, be fatal to "the woman brought to bed*." A learned theory has, doubtleſs, revealed the inconveniences of this method; but theſe are no more than chimeras to the Greek women, who maintain, with as much impunity, the compreſſion of the roller with which they encompaſs them, as they brave the dangers of the joltings of their delivery. They, on the contrary, find in it an advantage which

* Letter from SACOMBE to SONNINI.

is connected with the beautiful preſervation of their form, and which a multitude of women, of other countries, might envy them: it is to avoid an exceſſive and habitual ſwelling of the belly, or, what is ſtill more diſagreeable, the numerous folds and deep wrinkles with which the ſkin is furrowed.

On the firſt day, the midwife dreſſes the lying-in woman with dry roſe leaves, boiled in wine and honey. After ſeveral lotions of this mixture, roſe-leaves are applied till the next morning. The ſecond day, and the following days, ſhe contents herſelf with ſimply fomenting her patient with cotton ſteeped in warm wine, and then applying alternately powder of cinnamon, cloves, nutmegs, or cumin; that is to ſay, that only one of theſe aromatic powders is employed at a time, and it is changed at each dreſſing.

In lieu of wine, which is made uſe of only for delicate women, the midwives commonly employ brandy, which renders the dreſſing more ſmarting and more violent. Whatever may be the ſtate of the lying-in woman, whether her cure outſtrip the common term, or whether it experience delays, the ſame dreſſing is continued for eight days, morning and evening. It is curious to remark, that

that at each of theſe dreſſings, the midwife gets on the bed of the lying-in woman, by the ſide oppoſite to the bolſter, extends her legs between thoſe of her patient, takes hold of both her hands, and with one foot, which ſhe applies very exactly to the parts which have ſuffered, gives her three ſtrong ſhakes, at the ſame time preſſing her rudely with her foot.

On the eighth day, in the evening, an egg is boiled hard, and ſtripped of its ſhell; it is then powdered with ſome of the aromatics before mentioned, and confined, with bandages, to the part which the midwife has preſſed with her foot, and there it is left for two or three hours. It is to this operation, the object of which, according to what was gravely related to me by the midwife, is to attract the cold which the lying-in woman might have caught; it is to this operation, I ſay, that the care after the lying-in is confined, and the midwife is diſmiſſed.

This treatment is almoſt as harſh as the mode of delivery; it occaſions acute pains, eſpecially when brandy is made uſe of for the dreſſings. But it might be mitigated by retrenching uſeleſs things, ſuch as kicks, and be corrected, in ſhort, in ſuch a manner as to render

render it more ſupportable, without depriving it of its advantages; for it has inconteſtable ones, from its property of ſtrengthening and cloſing parts which their own extenſion, or the manœuvres of the midwife, have fatigued or bruiſed; its effect is equally ſure and quick, and it ſurpaſſes what might be thought likely to be expected from it, and what I can ſay.

The linen which has ſerved for the lying-in muſt not be waſhed in ſea-water, although the iſlanders of the ARCHIPELAGO ſcarcely employ any other for their waſhing: they are perſuaded that, if they did not change their cuſtom on this occaſion, the lying-in woman would infallibly die. Neither muſt ſhe ſuffer herſelf to be ſeen by any ſtar; and if ſhe go out, as is common enough, four or five days after the delivery, that is, before the treatment is terminated, ſhe takes care to return home, and ſhut herſelf up in her chamber at ſun-ſet, and neither to open, under any pretext, door nor window, for fear a ſtar ſhould ſurpriſe her, and, according to the common prejudice, cauſe the death of the mother and the child.

The firſt time that a woman quits her bed after her lying-in, ſhe muſt, before ſhe ſets

her feet on the floor, place them on a piece of iron, in order, it is ſaid, that ſhe may become ſtrong and ſound like that metal. Nor can ſhe in like manner enter into any houſe, without throwing on the threſhold of the door a key, or any other bit of iron, on which ſhe cannot diſpenſe with treading, if ſhe wiſh to avoid introducing with her the fatal influences with which ſhe is ſuppoſed to be ſurrounded.

The care which is laviſhed, in the iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO, on new-born infants, is, like thoſe which the mothers receive, a medley of uſeful practices and abſurd conceptions of ſuperſtitious Ignorance, a tyrannical divinity, of whom modern GREECE is become the frightful domain, and who preſides at the birth of its inhabitants, accompanies them during the courſe of their life, and does not even abandon them on the other ſide of the grave.

As ſoon as the child is born, it is waſhed with lukewarm water; it is then covered, from the feet to the neck, with a coat of ſalt, which is conſidered as a ſure preſervative againſt worms and other diſorders of the ſkin. After being wrapped up in ſwaddling clothes, it is put to bed, and then a loaf and a peſtle,

or

or any other piece of faſhioned wood, is placed at its ſides: the bread is to prevent the child from ſuffering from hunger as long as it lives, and the effect of the peſtle is to render it as quiet as a log of wood. In other countries of the EAST, the mother takes her new-born child, and the midwife a braſs mortar, with which ſhe ſtrikes three blows pretty near to the child's ear, in order, it is ſaid, to open the organ of hearing, and prevent deafneſs.

Whenever a child is laid down, the perſons who are in the room are obliged to ſtay there till it is arranged in its bed, and no other can enter during the time that this operation laſts. The importance which is annexed to the non-infringement of theſe precautions, proves that they are of ſuperior intereſt in the mind of the Greeks; they are, in fact, perſuaded, that the greateſt inconveniences would thence reſult, if people took the liberty of tranſgreſſing them. Theſe are not the only indifferent actions which are reckoned to have fatal effects on children; for example, neither fire nor light muſt be taken from a houſe where there is a new-born infant, if one wiſhes not to expoſe it to vent cries during the whole night. But the inſtant when it is ſwaddled, is principally con-

ſidered as likely to produce dangers the moſt preſſing, if thoſe about it neglect to avoid every thing that they fancy might be prejudicial to it. Movements too much multiplied round its bed; indiſcreet words, looks even, are ſo many pernicious actions: accordingly every one remains motionleſs, and preſerves a religious ſilence. I happened one day, on ſeeing a child ſwaddled, to ſay: "*There's a pretty little infant.*" The midwife, occupied with this buſineſs, turned briſkly towards me, at the ſame time exclaiming: "*Garlic in thy eyes!*" She then ſpat, with the ſame vivacity, and repeatedly, in the child's face, which very happily broke the charm, or the bad influence of words extremely innocent, and which I might think likely to be agreeable to the mother.

However, this cuſtom of ſpitting in the face, for the purpoſe of preventing the effect of faſcinations, is very ancient; and, in times very remote, as at preſent, nothing was more dreaded for children than *the influence of a ſiniſter look*, which, in the idea of the Greeks, ſignifies jealouſy and envy: their anceſtors were imbued with the ſame prejudices. The ſuperſtition of the women of Aſiatic GREECE, with reſpect to little children, in the age of

THEODOSTIUS

THEODOSIUS the Great, and of ARCADIUS his ſon, could not be equalled. ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOME complained of it loudly: "No "ſooner are children born," ſays he, "than "the women light lamps, and give them the "name of people who have lived a long time, "in order to procure them a long life. They "place in their hands ſiſtra and ſnappers, and "threads of ſcarlet, in order to put them in "greater ſafety. The women, the nurſes, and "ſometimes the ſervant maids, go and dip "their finger in a ſort of mud which is at "the bottom of the baths, and afterwards "imprint the ſame finger on the child's fore-"head; and when they are queſtioned as to "the purpoſe of this mud—It is, ſay they, "to avert ſiniſter looks, envy, and jealouſy. "There were ſome who wrote on the hand "of children the names of floods and rivers; "others made uſe of aſhes, ſoot, and ſalt, "and all this in order to avert ſiniſter looks, "that is, envy and jealouſy*."

Among the Greeks of the ARCHIPELAGO, garlic is a wonderful antidote againſt malicious looks; ſome is ſuſpended at the entrance

* *Mémoires de l' Académie des Belles Lettres*, vol. xiii. page 484, year 1737: *des mœurs et des uſages du ſiécle de Théodoſe le Grand, par Dom.* BERNARD DE MONTFAUCON.

of the houſes and chambers, and it is worn as an amulet. In order to preſerve children from this kind of witchcraft, there are alſo faſtened before them three little pieces of charcoal and three grains of ſalt, ſewed together in a little linen bag; and I remember that I had a very ſerious quarrel with a woman of this country, for having opened one of theſe amulets hung to the neck of her child, in order to ſee what it contained, and, above all, for having endeavoured to demonſtrate to her the ridiculouſneſs of theſe vain practices of ſuperſtition.

It is not only on children that the influence of ſiniſter looks are reckoned to be hurtful; men grown are equally expoſed to it, and the Mahometans and Greeks partake, in this reſpect, of the ſame opinions. A Turk, who had a great regard for me, and who dreaded, on my account, the bad effects of the glances of envy, adviſed me to wear conſtantly a pod of garlic on my breaſt; and, ſeeing that I did not appear to adopt this preſervative with much eagerneſs, turned towards a Greek prieſt who was at his ſide, and ſaid to him with confidence: — "*Theſe Franks are* "*great blockheads, ſince this one, who, among* "*them*

" *them, is reckoned to be intelligent, knows no-*
" *thing of what may be uſeful to him.*"

Flocks have alſo to fear, in theſe ſame countries, the maliciouſneſs of looks: this is, however, an ancient prejudice, which ſtill ſubſiſts in the greater part of our country-places. Superſtitious ideas reſemble each other in all times, in all countries, becauſe they proceed from ignorance, their common ſource; and they will ſubſiſt as long as that miry ſource ſhall not be dried up. This is to announce, that it will laſt as long as the world endures; for, in ſpite of the dreams of pretended philoſophers, who would wiſh that every claſs of ſociety ſhould attain their knowledge, and their lofty and chimerical conceptions, there will always remain, very fortunately, a laborious and ſimple portion tainted, if you will, with chimerical opinions, but infinitely leſs dangerous and more uſeful than certain mountebanks of philoſophy, whoſe precepts, could they be followed, would rather effect the diſſolution than the eſtabliſhment of human ſocieties.

Ancient authors often ſpeak of this ſort of fatal malignity, which is ſhot from the ſiniſter eye of the envious; the poets frequently recall to mind its diſaſtrous effects among

flocks*. In their time, a diſeaſe was occaſioned among cattle by malevolent looks; in our days too, in ſeveral diſtricts of our northern countries, the extraordinary diſeaſes of cattle are attributed to *a fate*; and quacks know how to avail themſelves of this credulity, in order to make people believe that they have the power of breaking the charm by magic operations. But what is no leſs deplorable, in regard to the weakneſs of the human mind, is, that grave authors have ſeriouſly attempted to explain the cauſes of theſe chimerical faſcinations†.

To theſe abſurd precautions for preſerving little children, the Greek women add ſeveral others, which do not appear always conformable to the rules of a ſalutary regimen. The means which theſe women employ for hindering children from venting cries are rather ſingular. The mother chews cumin, and then blows it ſtrongly into the mouth and ears of her child. Independently of cumin, the effect of which it is not eaſy to determine in ſuch a caſe, the violent puffs im-

* THEOCRITUS, OVID, &c. VIRGIL makes a herdſman ſay:

"*Neſcio quis teneros oculo mihi faſcinat agnos.*"

† PORTA. *Magia Naturalis*, &c. &c.

pelled

pelled into the ears muſt aſtoniſh the child, and cauſe it to be ſilent, at leaſt for ſome time.

In order to excite children to ſleep, they are made to ſwallow powdered nutmeg in milk; but the remedy which is the moſt commonly uſed in their illneſſes, the moſt excellent panacea, is VENICE treacle. On the ſmalleſt pain which they appear to feel, if they cry, if they ſleep little, or if their appetite fail, in a word, in all their indiſpoſitions, of whatever nature they may be, recourſe is had to treacle, as a ſovereign and univerſal remedy. Scarcely a day paſſes without a little child ſwallowing ſome of this drug, or at leaſt having a plaſter of it on the navel; ſo that it may be aſſerted that, in the ARCHIPELAGO, a child conſumes more of this treacle, during its firſt two years, than the man of our countries, the greateſt admirer of this compoſition, during his whole life. The poor, for whom this treacle is too coſtly a remedy, ſupply its place by cumin ſeed, the plant of which is very common in the EAST, and which they reduce to a paſte, in order to make their young children ſwallow it in lieu of the treacle.

This exceſſive uſe of heating drugs is, no doubt, attended with inconveniences; but there

there are to be found in that country ſtout men, and women of perfectly good conſtitutions, and this is a prejudice in its favour: while among us, where knowledge abounds, but where, not unfrequently, the leſſons of experience are ſacrificed to the conceptions of a brilliant theory, and diſdainfully metamorphoſed into traditions of routine, the cooling diet which relaxes and enervates, has prevailed in the opulent claſs, that is to ſay, in that which narrows the moſt the limits of their life, by making the greateſt efforts for enlarging them. We have before us the picture of the beings whom it produces, or rather whom it has devoted to languor and ſuffering. In order to avoid chaps and excoriations which greatly incommode children in all parts of the body that form folds moiſtened by ſweat or urine, the Greek women waſh them with warm wine, in which they infuſe myrtle-leaves, dried and reduced to powder. Theſe lotions are repeated every other day, with conſiderable ſucceſs; for one never ſees a child whoſe ſkin is marked by the ſlighteſt excoriation.

Theſe pains, laviſhed with ſo much attention on new-born infants, the ſacred pledges

of

of maternal affection, which never errs ſo far as to intruſt to a mercenary boſom the ſacred obligation of ſuckling its offspring during a whole year, do not extend to the precautions preſcribed by religion. The Greeks are not in ſuch a hurry as the Catholics to cauſe baptiſm to be adminiſtered to their children. This delay is common enough in the claſs of the poor, becauſe ſuch muſt wait till they have ſaved up the money neceſſary for the payment of the papas, whoſe zeal does not go ſo far as to diſcharge their function gratuitouſly. But as children are commonly diſtinguiſhed only by the name which they receive in baptiſm, the Greeks have agreed to deſignate that which waits for the ſacrament, by the generic denomination of *drako*, dragon, probably becauſe at that time it has ſome comformity to SATAN, the dragon of hell.

CHAPTER

CHAPTER XXVIII.

The age of puberty in the Archipelago.—*Periodical evacuation of the women of thoſe iſlands.—Singular law of the Jews on this ſubject.—Character of the Greek women.—Means which they employ to learn whom fate has deſtined for their huſband.—Feſtival of* St. John.—*Different reſins which the women keep inceſſantly in their mouth.—Paint which they uſe.—Pretended preſervative againſt being tanned by the ſun.*

UNDER the happy climate of GREECE, the body ſooner acquires its full growth than in our northern countries; there the organs, as well as all the phyſical faculties, are developed with leſs ſlowneſs; there the human ſpecies, in ſome meaſure more forward, ſeem to outſtrip the period of its enjoyments, and haſtens to diſplay the elegant forms of beauty that Nature has laviſhed on a land which ſhe had faſhioned to be the abode of felicity, and which the moſt diſguſting tyranny, the dreadful

dreadful ſcourge of ſocieties, has transformed into places of wretchedneſs and deſolation. The men, like the women, arrive ſooner at that age, when the agitation and the diſorder of the ſenſes give birth to a new ſenſe, in which man ſeems only to receive his exiſtence, in which every thing becomes animated and embelliſhed, in which every thing appears around him to burn with the ſame flame by which he is deliciouſly conſumed.

It is not uncommon, in the iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO, to ſee girls marriageable at ten years old; and, when they have attained the age of fifteen or ſixteen, they have ſcarcely any thing more to acquire in point of ſhape, ſtrength, and all the attributes of the moſt beautiful phyſical conſtitution. It is well known that the periodical evacuation, peculiar to women, diminiſhes in quantity in proportion to the heat and humidity of the climate. More copious in EUROPE, it is leſs ſo in the EAST; it is ſtill leſs in EGYPT and BARBARY; very trifling in the interior of AFRICA, and almoſt null in the countries of AMERICA bordering on the equator. Philoſophers have carried obſervation ſo far as to calculate the quantity of this evacuation; and it is from the reſult of their reſearches that I

have

have compoſed the account of the progreſſive diminution in the different parts of the globe. But the temperature of the eaſtern iſlands of the MEDITERRANEAN muſt have experienced ſome change ſince the age of HIPPOCRATES, or elſe the human ſpecies muſt have undergone ſome alteration, ſince the weight of nine *kemina*, equivalent to nine ounces, at which that great phyſician had eſtimated the quantity of the periodical diſcharge of the women of the Iſle of Cos, his country, is at preſent too much for the women of the ſame countries, as I have convinced myſelf. There is no one whoſe evacuation even comes near the weight fixed by HIPPOCRATES: among the greater part, it never exceeds three ounces, and with ſeveral it is ſo trifling, that it is almoſt reduced to nothing.

Obſervations of this kind are not frivolous, as ſome perſons might imagine. They are important traits of our own hiſtory, and it is only by collecting them that man will ſucceed in knowing himſelf: a knowledge which, notwithſtanding the number of writings that we have on this ſubject, is not yet much advanced, becauſe we have, in reality, written more than we have obſerved.

But theſe materials, of which the annals of the human ſpecies are compoſed, are not eaſy to preſent in a work of which it is not wiſhed to make a book of anatomy. A ſort of delicacy in our language rejects expreſſions which art has conſecrated; then we muſt employ phraſes in lieu of words, and intimate rather than expreſs our meaning in a clear and preciſe manner. A zealous friend as I am of Nature, I am not leſs ſo of propriety, and I ſhall ſpeak of the nice, yet intereſting obſervations, to which I was impelled by a love of ſcience, but with that reſerve of ſtyle, that circumſpection in the images, in ſhort, thoſe delicate precautions, which paint without dazzling, and conſtitute the decency of a writer.

The legiſlator of the Hebrews had pronounced ſentence of death againſt huſbands whoſe petulance did not ſtop at certain periods*. MOSES, therefore, muſt have ſuſpected conſequences extremely fatal, and we muſt have a curioſity to be acquainted with them. Diſſertations, as well as conjectures, have been accumulated for the purpoſe of endeavouring

* *Qui coierit cum muliere in fluxu menſtruo, et revelaverit turpitudinem ejus, ipſaque aperuerit fontem ſanguinis ſui, interficientur ambo de medio populi ſui.* LEVIT. cap. xx. v. 18.

to

to diſcover the motive of a law ſo ſevere. Phyſicians have ſeen, in an action which involved the penalty of death, the ſource of a diſeaſe whoſe irruption into EUROPE ſome writer has, methinks, improperly thought of fixing at the moment of the diſcovery of AMERICA *. They have called in to the help of their hypotheſis the heat of climate, as being likely to give greater malignity to that diſeaſe, while experience has informed us that it was, on the contrary, much leſs violent and leſs difficult to be cured in hot countries. Others have aſſerted that, among a people where legiſlation tended not only to favour, but even to excite the increaſe of population, it was natural to prohibit acts which, not contributing to it effectually, on that account even became contrary to it. But, admitting that this was no more than a vain appeal to ſterility, which is by no means certain, it can hardly be ſuppoſed that theſe acts would have been conſidered as a crime which deſerved the moſt rigorous puniſhment, ſince the ſame laws did not, during the pregnancy of women, prohibit a work of ſterility well proved.

† *Traité des maladies vénériennes*, par ASTRUC, liv. i. chap. ii.

A celebrated

A celebrated man of learning, by his inquiries into the manners and cuſtoms of the Iſraelites, M. MICHAËLIS, had engaged the travellers, whom the King of DENMARK ſent into ſeveral countries of the EAST, to direct their obſervations towards a point on which depended the underſtanding and explanation of a law very ſingular, but at the ſame time exceſſively rigid*. The ſciences had to regret the intelligent and courageous men, charged with the honourable miſſion of going to acquire, at a diſtance, information and knowledge, treaſures over which humanity has not to mourn, and from which honour and probity avert not their looks. My obſervations will not, undoubtedly, be able to make up for thoſe which we had a right to expect from this learned aſſemblage; but I have thought that their reſult might afford ſome intereſt, from the elucidations which they contain, on a ſubject, which has, as yet, only given room to conjectures.

I have neglected no opportunity of gathering preciſe information, whether in EGYPT, where

* *Les Voyageurs ſavans et curieux, ou Tablettes inſtructives et Guide de ceux que ſa Majeſté Danoiſe a envoyés en Arabie et autres pays voiſins; par* M. MICHAËLIS. London, 1768, queſtion 10.

it was difficult to obtain any, and ſometimes dangerous to look for it, or in GREECE, where the ſame difficulties do not exiſt. It is very certain that, in thoſe countries of the EAST, the action which the legiſlator of the Jews repreſſed with ſo much ſeverity, is not reckoned to be attended with fatal conſequences, nor to occaſion the ſlighteſt inconvenience, although it is not there uncommon: the men of thoſe climates even find in it ſome attractions, for reaſons which are known to natural philoſophers, and which I ſhall diſpenſe with giving. Nay, we ſay more, this is that the Orientals do not ſuſpect that any thing dangerous or inconvenient can thence reſult. Their careful cleanlineſs, their frequent ablutions were probably ſufficient for ſecuring them from any inconvenience in this reſpect. The Jews, on the contrary, the dirtieſt people on earth, ſubject to the leproſy, and eaten up by all kinds of cutaneous diſorders, apparently imbibed from theſe very exceſſes freſh ferments of acrimony, and a new tendency to complaints which the numerous precautions, preſcribed by religion, had not ſucceeded in extirpating, and of which, in our days, they ſtill preſerve the diſguſting impreſſion. The ſeverity of theſe precautions, which fill the

the pages of the religious code of the Iſraelites, is the only motive that we can reaſonably aſſign for the frightful rigour of a law, the diſpoſitions of which had no other object than to intimidate an ignorant and rude nation, ſince they could not reach infractions buried in darkneſs and myſtery.

It is not aſtoniſhing that women, whom the nature of the climate cauſes to arrive ſooner at a marriageable ſtate, ſhould have moral diſpoſitions which agree with this phyſical precocity. The vivacity, the tranſport even of feeling, accompany this forward adoleſcence of the ſenſes. That devouring fire which endeavours to communicate itſelf externally, is very active among the Greek females; they are very ſuſceptible of the impreſſions of love; tender and paſſionate, the object beloved is every thing in their eyes; to preſerve it, no ſacrifice is painful to them, and they are, in this way, real heroines. What a charming country is that where the mildneſs of the climate and the dreſs of the earth are in delightful harmony with that beauty, which love animates with its faſcinating features, tenderneſs with its ſweeteſt effuſions, and a generous and entire devotion with the flights of energy and courage!

But we ſhould be miſtaken if we thought that the diſorder of the ſenſes accompanied that energy, that ſort of delirium of ſenſibility. Theſe women, ſo tender and ſo impaſſioned, have, at the ſame time, no ſmall ſhare of reſerve: while warm and profound affections torment and agitate their ſoul, that internal trouble is not communicated externally; their deportment preſerves the appearance of calmneſs and gravity; ſcrupulous decency ceaſes not to guide their actions; and, proud of being loved, becauſe they are themſelves conſumed by an ardent flame, it is in a tête-à-tête only that they give themſelves up to the torrent of their tranſports, which are ſo much the more impetuous as they have been longer checked. There it is that their exquiſite ſenſibility is ſurrounded by all its charms, and that the delicate and ſenſible man can meet with the celeſtial happineſs of ſeeing laviſhed on himſelf the expreſſions and all the marks of ſentiments ſo delightful, in a word, of being loved as he has ſcarcely the hope to be elſewhere.

No leſs ſimple in their taſtes than warm in their affections, the Greek females have not preciſe manners, and the ſtudied affectation of coquetry; characteriſtic ſigns of a haughty

haughty pretenſion exacting homage, which ceaſes to be ſweet as ſoon as it ceaſes to be free, as if every ſpecies of tyranny was not the grave of ſentiment: a reſource unſkilful and unworthy of beauty, becauſe it ſtifles tenderneſs, which can alone conſtitute its happineſs, and produces only gallantry at which delicate ſouls are ſcared. It is, in fact, no longer any thing but the mechaniſm of love; it is no longer any thing but barren favours, which, like a charming ſhrub that had been ſtripped of its vernal flowers and foliage, loſe their ſweeteſt charms, and have then no attractions but for the impetuous tumult of the ſenſes or the habit of depravity. Women ſuch as I have juſt deſcribed them, who know how to walk with ſo much grace by the bright light of the torch of Love, alſo advance with dignity to the altar of Hymen. The knots which they there tie with frankneſs, are never looſened; and in thoſe ſacred engagements, which they conſider as inviolable, they diſplay the ſame energy of ſentiment, the ſame fires of an inflamed ſoul, the ſame devotedneſs of which the huſband, like the lover, is the ſole object, and which ſcatter the roſes of Love in the temple of Hymen.

A rule common to all the nations of the EAST, preſcribes that the women ſhould never preſent themſelves in the porch of that auguſt temple, but decorated with the qualities to which the men of thoſe countries, more jealous than elſewhere of ſuch a kind of priority, attach ſo great a value, that it is a public diſhonour in the eyes of all, and a crime with ſome, for women who ſhould not there afford unequivocal proofs of the moſt ſcrupulous fidelity, in preſerving a treaſure of which the vanity of men conſtitutes nearly all the value. However rigorous may be this obligation, more ſtrictly followed by Mahometan women, becauſe more reſtrained and cloſely watched, they have ſcarcely an opportunity of infringing it, the Greek females, whoſe youth is not more confined than that of European girls, do not always perform it with the ſame exactneſs; but they employ a few ſtratagems for preſerving at leaſt the appearances of it, and they exert ſo much addreſs in this little fraud, that every one is deceived by it, and the union of the married couple is not thereby diſturbed.

It is not very common, however, for thoſe reſources employed for diſguiſing the wanderings of love, to become neceſſary. The Greek

girls do not eaſily allow themſelves to be robbed of a treaſure which they are to bring as a marriage-portion; their reſiſtance in this reſpect is almoſt always invincible, and affords a rather ſingular contraſt to the circumſpect facility which they grant to favoured love of gathering a few ſcattered and burning flowers. It is ſtill more uncommon for amorous ſacrifices to leave behind them apparent traces; and when tender ſentiments lead to tender errors, ſimple and ingenious precautions which are not even unknown to women, prevent all accident, without being prejudicial to an entire ſacrifice to enjoyment: artifices which, as well as the leſſons, or to ſpeak more correctly, the thefts on love, taught by SAPPHO, and which her deſcendants have not forgotten, may perhaps be dated from antiquity; they have fortunately eſcaped the induſtrious corruption of our morals, and I ſhall take good care not to reveal them.

Hearts diſpoſed to ſentiment muſt ardently wiſh to meet with men worthy of their tenderneſs, and who anſwer to the want which they have of loving. The girls of the ARCHIPELAGO employ, with much ingenuity, various means for aſcertaining whether the object beloved will become their huſband, or for

knowing him whom Hymen intends for them. St. John is to the girls of theſe countries, what St. Nicholas is to thoſe of my country, who addreſs to him their prayers and their vows, in order to obtain a ſpeedy change of condition. On the eve of the feſtival of the ſaint, the Greek girls aſſemble in ſeveral parties, and they there occupy themſelves ſolely on the intereſting ſubject which calls them together. They ſend for water from a well or ciſtern; the perſon who has charge of it muſt not utter a ſingle word, under any pretext whatever: this water is, for that reaſon, called *ſecret water*. They fill with it a large jar, in which every one of them puts an apple; the jar, whoſe lid muſt lock, is then ſhut; it is placed on the flat roof of a houſe or in any other elevated ſituation, and there left, during the whole night, in the open air. The next day, that is, on the very day of the feſtival of St. John, they aſſemble again after church, and no one comes too late. They addreſs a few prayers to St. John, which are, in reality, only invocations to love; the jar full of war is again brought with religious precaution; it is opened and every girl draws up *ſecret water*, in a ſmall veſſel, with her apple, which ſhe has taken care to notice: ſhe makes

makes over each of them three ſigns of the croſs, at the ſame time ſaying: "*Great St. "JOHN, ordain that, if I am to marry N...., "this veſſel may turn to the right; and if he "is not to become my huſband, the veſſel may "turn to the left.*" She who has pronounced this prayer, joins her hands, at the ſame time holding her thumbs raiſed and ſpread the one from the other; one of her female companions places herſelf before her and does the ſame; on theſe four thumbs, thus arranged, is then placed the veſſel, which never fails, it is ſaid, to turn of itſelf to the right or left, and thus to point out the huſband that is to be united to her who is expecting with inquietude the anſwer of this ſingular oracle, which each girl conſults in her turn, and in the ſame manner. Several perſons of the graveſt caſt have aſſured me, that they had ſeen the veſſel turn; and it would be in vain to attempt to perſuade the Greeks that St. JOHN has no ſhare in the effect, quite natural, of the want of ſolidity and mobility of a ſupport, ſome parts of which, by ſwerving from the others, impreſs on the veſſel a ſlight motion, which, in eyes already prejudiced, may appear as a commencement of rotation on its baſe.

A reſtleſs

A reſtleſs curioſity does not always ſtop at this firſt trial, and theſe females endeavour to look, in another manner, into a futurity too ſlow in making its appearance. This ſame day, the feſtival of St. John, ſome young Greek girls add a new mean to that of the turning veſſel: they waſh themſelves with *ſecret water* in which the apples have been bathed; they then go into the ſtreet, and the firſt name which they hear pronounced, is that of the huſband whom fate intends for them.

While the girls are giving themſelves up to occupations dear to their heart, and calculated for allaying a natural impatience, the women think of the cares which cuſtom preſcribes to mothers: a part of St. John's day is employed in pounding and putting by ſalt, which is to ſerve for covering their new-born children. All, women and girls, beſides the apples which the latter plunge into the *ſecret water*, put, on the eve of the feſtival, one into a jar full of water, and there leave it till noon the next day. This apple, thus ſteeped, becomes a gift precious to love or friendſhip; the women preſent it to the perſon for whom they have the moſt affection next to their huſband; and the young Greeks leave

leave nothing undone to obtain the apple, a pledge of ſentiments of preference, and a happy preſage of the gifts of love.

The feſtival of ST. JOHN is, in moſt civilized countries, a remarkable day, independently of the ſolemnity attached to it by religion. It happens in the ſummer ſolſtice, a period always accompanied by conſiderable changes in the atmoſphere, and theſe variations are ſufficiently marked to ſtrike the vulgar, and make them attribute to the ſaint that which is no more than the natural effect of the ſucceſſion of the ſeaſons. In my country, the ci-devant LORRAINE, ST. JOHN rules the cutting of hay; whether or not it have attained a ſtate of maturity, the ſcythe lays it low the day after the feſtival. In the LEVANT, the plague is to diſappear on this very day; and the Greeks of the ARCHIPELAGO are perſuaded, that, by means of certain abſtinences, which are connected more with ſuperſtition than with religious ideas, ST. JOHN will preſerve them from fever during the whole year. In the courſe of the day of this feſtival, they eat no ſort of meat or fiſh; they even deprive themſelves of bread, and they take nothing but herbs and ſome fruit: an auſtere abſtinence, which is repeated from generation

neration to generation, although experience has ſhewn that it did not attain its object.

In the ARCHIPELAGO, as in a great part of the EAST, the women make a great uſe of maſtic, a reſin which exudes from the lentiſk cultivated in the Iſle of SCIO; they are chewing it inceſſantly, and they find in it the property of preſerving the teeth and of rendering the breath ſweet. But as all the women of the ARCHIPELAGO, where wretchedneſs is greater, are not always in a ſituation to procure SCIO maſtic, and as they are not, on that account, the leſs in the habit of holding continually ſomething in their mouth, they make uſe of another ſpecies of reſin, produced by a plant which grows naturally on the ſoil of MILO and of ARGENTIERA, and probably on other iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO. This plant, which is alſo very abundant in CANDIA, where it is called *ardactila*, and where the women likewiſe chew reſin, is the *attractilis gummifera* of LINNÆUS. The Greeks of MILO and ARGENTIERA give it the name of *anganthia tſi maſtikas*, that is, *prickles of maſtic*, becauſe the plant is beſet with prickles, and becauſe they call *maſtic* the reſin which exudes from it, although it has ſcarcely any other affinity to the true maſtic, the reſin of

the lentiſk, than from the cuſtom of being both bruiſed between the teeth. It comes in like manner in white or yellowiſh drops round the plant; it is gathered in the months of July and Auguſt, and it is difficult to be detached, on account of the great number of thorns which guard it, and to which it adheres. The flowers of this *attractilis* do not appear till October; the ſeeds, when they are ripe, are detached in flight, and, as it were, winged filaments, and become the ſport of the winds. The Greeks call theſe ſorts of little wandering ſtars, which the agitation of the air ſometimes brings into the houſes, *moloyſtrès*, which ſignifies informers, ſpies.

Although the greater number of the Greek women have no need to borrow any thing from art, in order to give their complexion that colour and bloom which they receive from nature, yet they frequently endeavour to give it more luſtre and vivacity. This inquietude, which occaſions beauty never to be ſatisfied with itſelf, is therefore common to all countries! But in this, at leaſt, pernicious drugs alter not the colour of a beautiful carnation, and ſharp and cauſtic juices dry not the ſkin; the ſlight artifices which an ardent and reſtleſs wiſh, rather than a move-

ment

ment of coquetry employs, are ſimple, like Nature, which affords its elements.

Anciently the Greek women made uſe of red and white. It is uncommon for the Greek females of our time, thoſe at leaſt who inhabit the iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO, to put on white; and when they uſe it, they employ for it no other ſubſtance than the ſpecies of very ſmall univalve and white ſhells, of the genus of cowries, and which are known in French under the vulgar name of *puceluges*. After having carefully waſhed theſe ſhells, they are pounded in order to be reduced to impalpable powder, on which is expreſſed the juice of a lemon, which makes it a very beautiful white.

The red is drawn from the bulb of a beautiful ſpecies of iris, which, with other flowers brought from the ſame countries in order to conſtitute the richneſs of our parterres, embelliſh the deſerted plains and the rural ſpots of the iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO. Its ſtem, upwards of a foot high, and its long leaves, terminated in points, are of a beautiful green; the flower is of a bright violet without, and of a bright yellow, ſtriped with a deeper yellow, within; the ſtamina are yellow, and the ſeeds or fruits are black, and

of

of a very irregular form. The Greeks call this plant *agrio crino*, wild lily, becauſe it is, in fact, a liliaceous plant, although it is not, properly ſpeaking, a real lily.

The following is the method practiſed for extracting a paint from the bulbous roots of this iris. They are ſtripped of their exterior pedicles, and are then of a ſnow white; they are grated, and the pulp is put into water; it is then kneaded, waſhed three times in clean water, and, at each time, it is ſtrained through a very fine linen cloth. At the third time, the grounds are thrown away, and the laſt water is left to ſettle for twelve or fifteen hours. At the end of that time, the water is gently poured off by ſloping the jar, at the bottom of which is found an amylaceous ſediment; it is dried and reduced to a fine powder, which is kept in bottles or pots well cloſed, to be made uſe of as wanted, and it is thus preſerved for a very long time. When it is wanted for uſe, a pinch of it is taken, and put on the cheek, which is then rubbed ſlightly for a few minutes with the palm of the hand. This application cauſes, for the firſt time, a little ſmarting, but the cheeks become of a vermilion red; for this powder has alſo the property of giving a luſtre to the ſkin

ſkin. Neither heat, nor ſweat, nor any other cauſe can diſpel this brilliant colour, which does not conſiſt in a coat of ſubſtances ſpread externally, but is inherent in the ſkin itſelf. It is unneceſſary to renew frequently the ſame operation; the face preſerves its bloom for ſeveral days, and a woman may waſh herſelf without fear of making it diſappear or weakening it.

I had at firſt imagined that this very white powder, which gives the cheeks a red colour only by introducing itſelf into the pores, might hurt the ſkin of the face and alter it. I convinced myſelf, not without ſome degree of ſurpriſe, that it had no bad effect. I have examined the face of elderly women, who, from their youth, had employed this ſort of paint; their ſkin was not in any way affected; it even appeared to have preſerved a certain brilliant colour, which could be attributed only to a long uſe of iris powder, in which I found no other defect, than a ſtrong herbaceous ſmell, which it would be eaſy to correct.

From the firſt day of the month of March till Eaſter, the women of the ARCHIPELAGO ſurround their wriſts with ſilk thread of different colours; to theſe the rich add a gold thread.

thread. They think that this is a certain mean of ſecuring themſelves from the tanning of the ſun during the month of March, which they conſider as the moſt fatal to the ſkin. On Eaſter night, which all the Greeks paſs almoſt entirely at church, the women kindle a fire at the door; they throw into it the threads which they have worn as bracelets during Lent, and they addreſs prayers to God, in order that he may deign to preſerve every father who loves his daughter, from the mortification of ſeeing her attacked by the tan of March.

CHAPTER XXIX.

Marriage of the Greeks.—Witchcraft of which young married people imagine themſelves victims. — Precautions which young brides muſt take.—Care which mothers take of their children.—Phyſic of the Greeks in the Archipelago.—*Regret which accompanies the dead. —Death and funeral of a papadia.*

TO the Greeks it is a ſocial duty, which tends to the purity of domeſtic manners, to marry young. Among them are not ſeen that multitude of old bachelors, children of the combinations of inſenſibility and the ſcourge of morals: girls have not many years to celebrate the feſtival of ST. JOHN with their *ſecret water*, prepared with an ingenuous and reſtleſs curioſity; and young men haſten to unite themſelves with thoſe whom their heart, rather than their parents, has choſen. Love always preſides at knots which vile intereſt has not tied; and friendſhip, as well as fidelity and attachment to duties, do not

not permit them to be looſened, at leaſt in the iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO, where habits are more ſimple, and leſs corrupted by ambition and cupidity, than in great towns. Divorce, which is allowed to the Greeks, ſcarcely occurs but in the boſom of trading cities and in the opulent claſs, whoſe calculations and ſpeculations frequently ſupply the place of ſentiment; but this diſſolution of ſacred engagements is extremely rare among the iſlanders, who know how to love in a durable manner, and whoſe marriages are better aſſorted than in the midſt of the luxury of cities. Conjugal love is there in all its force; and this reſpected ſentiment is one of the virtues of the modern Greek women.

When the dowry is ſettled between the families, and their conſent, which is almoſt always in uniſon with the wiſh of the lovers, has diſpoſed every thing for the nuptials, the young bride is conducted to the bath. The next day, a numerous retinue accompanies the young couple to church; ſongs and dances enliven a ſlow and grave march; and, in general, it is preceded by torches, the emblems of that of Love and of Hymen.

At the inſtant when the young couple come out of their houſe, cotton-ſeed is thrown

on their heads by handfuls. The ſame ceremony is repeated at church, at the moment of the nuptial benediction, which ſignifies that they are wiſhed a life of felicity, compoſed of as many years as there have been ſeeds ſcattered. Perſons in ſomewhat eaſy circumſtances mix parats, ſmall pieces of money of the value of fifteen of our deniers, with the ſeeds of the cotton-tree, and to theſe the richeſt add Turkiſh ſequins, a gold coin, each piece of which is nearly equivalent to ſeven livres ten ſous tournois. In INDIA, it is the prieſt who ſcatters on the young couple rice-ſeeds, as an emblem of fecundity.

The young pair chooſe a godfather and godmother, who no longer quit them till the end of the ceremony. The retinue is received at the door of the church by the papas, who bleſſes two crowns of foliage, adorned with ribands and laces, and places them on the head of the young couple; he likewiſe bleſſes two rings, and puts them on their fingers: but, during the celebration, he changes every inſtant the crowns and the rings, giving alternately the crown to the one, and the ring to the other, in ſuch a manner, however, that the gold ring remains with

with the huſband; and the ſilver one, with the wife. Theſe changes are renewed by the godfather, the godmother, and the relations, ſo that they remain a very long time in the church. At length, the papas concludes by cutting ſmall pieces of bread, which he puts into a cup full of wine; he takes ſome of the former with a ſpoon, and thus diſtributes it to the young couple and thoſe preſent; the party then return in the ſame order to the houſe where the nuptial feaſt has been prepared; the relations and friends ſend proviſions of every ſort, and the Greeks, great lovers of feſtivity, there paſs ſeveral days.

On going to and returning from church, the bride is ſupported by two women, or two of her male relations; ſhe walks ſlowly, with her eyes caſt down, and the veil of a grave and intereſting modeſty covers her face. In ſome parts of GREECE, as ſoon as the bride arrives at the door of the dwelling of her huſband, a carpet is ſpread over a ſieve, which is placed on the very threſhold of the door, and ſhe is made to walk on it. If the ſieve, on which ſhe fails not to tread ſtrongly, did not break under her feet, this would excite againſt her ſuſpicions which would alarm

her huſband: he is quiet and contented after the trial of the ſieve*.

But another trial, more ſerious, awaits the bride. Conducted to the nuptial-bed by the godmother †, ſhe ſoon ſees her huſband arrive, led by the godfather. They are left alone; but the godfather and godmother remain in an adjoining apartment, with the relations and even the friends. They go from time to time, to inquire whether every thing has terminated to mutual ſatisfaction; they come back, they return, till they are aſſured of the fact; then they bring to the married couple a nouriſhing broth, which they take in bed, in preſence of the noiſy aſſembly, who then withdraw, to return no more.

Among all the nations of the EAST, the men have been envious of the firſt fruits, of which they frequently obtain no more than the appearances. In EGYPT, a crowd, ſtill more importunate than in GREECE, lays ſiege to the chamber of the married couple, and abandons it not till they have given up to them the marks, often equivocal, of a vir-

* See *Les Lettres ſur la Grèce, by* GUYS, Paris, 1783, vol. i. page 249.

† *Ducitur in thalamum virgo, ſtat pronuba juxta.* CLAUD.

tue

ture which is outraged. In NATOLIA, and in ſome other parts of the Ottoman empire, the Turks and the Greeks who marry are obliged to ſuſpend, on the outſide of the houſe, thoſe ſigns, real or fictitious, of the folly of the men, more than of the innocence of the women, in order that every paſſenger may examine and aſcertain that the honour of the married couple is untainted. However precious theſe marks may be in the eyes of the Orientals, the Greek women alſo attach to them another value; it is, in their opinion, the moſt efficacious of all coſmetics, for removing ſpots and pimples from the face, and rendering the ſkin ſoft and ſmooth.

But theſe pretended ſigns of innocence, which a falſe pride ambitiouſly ſeeks and exacts, do not always appear the firſt night of the nuptials. Several other nights, and ſometimes whole months, elapſe before they can be obtained. It is no longer the fault of the wife, it is the huſband who thinks himſelf bewitched: envious people have pronounced words, and performed magical operations; he ceaſes to be a man. If means be not found to break the charm, the marriage is declared null, and the unfortunate

couple ſeparate; cuſtom allows them to contract another alliance; and jealous Fate, which had accompanied them in the former, does not attend them in the latter.

The magical operation by which the married couple are *tied*—(this is the term employed by the Greeks, and which anſwers to what was called among us, formerly, *nouer l'aiguillette*)—this operation, I ſay, is, according to them, an evocation to the devil; it is practiſed by forming three looſe knots on a ſtring. When the papas gives his benediction to the married couple, the malignant genius, that wiſhes to hurt them, draws the two ends of the ſtring, tightens the knots, and ſays: "*I tie N—— and N——, and "the devil in the middle.*" Nothing more is neceſſary; the impotence of the huſband laſts as long as the knots are not untied; and if the fatal ſtring be loſt, or if an obſtinate malevolence refuſe to undo it, dejection becomes general, and maraſmus would lead to death, if the marriage were not diſſolved: but this accidental weakneſs of the body is produced only by that of the mind. There is no Greek who, in marrying, does not dread to be *tied*. To this precaution are added the alarms which the bride and the relations

relations do not conceal from him: he does not preſent himſelf at the temple of Hymen but trembling, and with his ſoul full of terror; and if ſome circumſtances appear to come to the ſupport of this fear, his mind becomes troubled, and his imagination being ſtruck, produces the evil of which it alone is the cauſe.

I have ſeen ſingular examples of what can be effected by the wandering of the imagination. I ſhall quote that of a young man whom I had a long time before my eyes. At the moment when he received the nuptial benediction, a rival had formed the three knots, and pronounced the imprecations: ſtruck by this idea, though he was in the prime of life, and had, before this period, given proofs of a vigour which forſook him all at once; though, in ſhort, his wife was upwards of twenty years of age, and was not reckoned to be of the moſt rigid virtue, they could not ſeal their union, and Hymen extinguiſhed his torch. Shame and vexation were painted on the countenance of the young huſband; the diſorder, or rather weakneſs, increaſed in proportion as the mind was affected. Recourſe was had to the prieſts, and to the ſkill of old women, who pretended

tended to have ſecrets for deſtroying the charm: nothing ſucceeded; the witchcraft reſiſted every thing. The devil ſtood firm, and he who thought himſelf tormented by him, while he was the victim only of his own imagination, reduced to a ſtate which inſpired pity, reſumed all his energy with another woman, whom he took for wife, after having languiſhed, for whole months, with her who could not be ſo.

Independently of prayers and holy water, of which the papas is not ſparing when he is well paid, I ſaw tried on this unhappy youth various means for *untying* him, all abſurd, and calculated only to make his chimerical ideas take deeper root. He was made to ſwim acroſs an arm of the ſea: the married couple were made to lie down, ſtripped of every garment, on the flat floor in the middle of the room, and they were ſurrounded by brambles. Another time, the huſband alone was wrapped up in thiſtle leaves, and thus left to paſs the night in cruel torment, &c. &c. remedies as chimerical as the complaint for which they were applied.

When witchcraft does not happen to diſturb the firſt moments of an intimate union, it is recommended to the huſband not to ſuffer

ſuffer his wife, however thirſty ſhe may be, to take, during the firſt night, any ſort of drink. She muſt alſo keep her room, not expoſe herſelf to the air for four days, and abſtain from all work during eight. Theſe attentions are ſaid to be favourable to population; and, to judge of them by the great number of children that are ſeen in theſe countries, it would appear that they are not uſeleſs. Not any woman is ſeen but with one little child in her arms, and often two. Yet the effects of a happy fecundity are ſoon conſumed, diſperſed, and annihilated, by a deſpotiſm which is in continual war againſt nature and the human race.

Nothing equals the ſtate of health, the robuſt conſtitution of the little children, except the facility with which they come into the world; an advantage for which the Greek women are indebted to the excellence of their conſtitution, to a ſimple, regular life, exempt from exceſſes, cares, and inquietudes, ſtill more than to phyſical diſpoſitions, calculated to render deliveries leſs painful, ſuch as a diſtenſion more eaſy, and favoured by a greater quantity of the waters of the *amnios*. The young married women cheerfully carry the weight of their pregnancy. They ſee approach

proach, with ſatisfaction, the term when they ſhall be inveſted with a dear and ſacred title; and they acquit themſelves of the duties which this new ſtate impoſes on them with the tender ſolicitude and affec tionate attentions which conſtitute the ornament and dignity of a mother. They thus prepare for themſelves the ſweeteſt recompenſe to which a feeling mind has a right to aſpire; filial piety is the reward of maternal love; and thoſe virtues, without which all ſociety preſents only the image of a ſcandalous diſorganization, are held in honour among the modern Greeks, as they were among the Greeks of antiquity.

In the EAST, are not to be found women who make it an object of ſpeculation to abandon their own children, in order to ſuckle thoſe of others; a monſtrous exchange, which dries up in their ſource the ſentiments of nature, and might in a great meaſure be pleaded in excuſe for the ingratitude of ſome children towards mothers who voluntarily renounce all claims to their love. The children have not, for a whole year, any other nouriſhment than their mother's milk. How not be attached, without reſerve, to the boſom whence we have long imbibed our firſt and only ſubſiſtence, where, with our head ſoftly reclined,

we have ſo frequently taſted the repoſe of innocence, where we have ſo many times been preſſed by the ſweet embraces of maternal love!

I found a ſingular prejudice ſpread among the women of the ARCHIPELAGO. Thoſe who ſuckle their children are perſuaded that if, for any want whatever, their milk ſhould happen to be warmed over the fire, their boſom would become dry, and the milk would infallibly go away, to return no more.

I have already made mention of ſeveral means employed for curing the complaints and indiſpoſitions of little children; I ſhall add that, when they happen to have any complaint at the navel, a cataplaſm of ſoot is applied to it.

However, all phyſic, in the Greek iſlands, is founded only on practices, on ſecrets, which are ſcarcely more rational than the opinion of the women reſpecting their milk. If we except a few foreigners, who ſeldom come thither to aſſume or uſurp the title of phyſicians, there are none in theſe iſlands; and I muſt add, to the praiſe of the climate, more than to the detriment of the art, that, generally ſpeaking, people there enjoy a ſtate of health ſufficiently good not to be tempted

to

to regret it. In common complaints, or accidents, recourſe is had to women, who have the tradition of ſome recipes, which they apply without too much diſcernment, but which, nevertheleſs, often produce good effects. The following are ſuch of thoſe curative methods as I have ſeen employed on different occaſions. I am far from giving them as good remedies; but they afford a ſketch of the ſtate in which the art of phyſic is, in our days, among a people where it has been cultivated by immortal men.

We may well expect not to meet with theory in the exerciſe of phyſic, to which women, who have learned nothing, apply themſelves in GREECE. A few recipes of empiriciſm conſtitute all their ſkill; and if we may, with ſome reaſon, reproach our phyſicians with too frequently abandoning obſervation, in order to ſuffer themſelves to be led away by vague and uſeleſs ſyſtematic conceptions, it muſt be acknowledged that, in the EAST, people fall into a contrary exceſs, through the ignorance which accompanies the application of remedies.

Bleeding is there much in uſe; but the Greeks wait as long as they poſſibly can before they ſuffer blood to be drawn from the arm,

arm, becauſe they conſider the firſt bleeding of this part as capable of relieving them from the danger of the moſt violent illneſſes; accordingly they reſerve it for the moſt ſerious caſes: in other circumſtances, where bleeding appears uſeful to them, they cauſe it to be practiſed in the foot. It is very difficult to determine them to follow another mode of proceeding. I was requeſted to bleed a young girl in a ſmall iſland of the ARCHIPELAGO; it was abſolutely inſiſted that ſhe ſhould be let blood in the foot, which appeared to me contrary to the nature of her diſorder. I inſiſted on bleeding her in the arm; and as I was the only perſon who knew how to make uſe of a lancet, the relatives, as well as the patient, were compelled to ſubmit to my deciſion, but very much againſt their inclination. Two hours after the bleeding, I aſked to ſee the blood: it had been thrown away, and my uſeleſs curioſity was highly ridiculed: it was impoſſible, ſaid they to me, for the blood to be bad, ſince it was *virgin blood*, that is, that it was the firſt which iſſued from the arm, and that it could not but be very good.

It is inconteſtable, that the ancient phyſicians of the EAST frequently employed oil in

unction. I endeavoured to learn whether this cuſtom was preſerved among the modern Greeks, and I convinced myſelf that they ſcarcely any longer made uſe of oily unctions in their diſorders. Lentiſk oil is, as I have already ſaid, a remedy which is rather frequently recurred to in the ARCHIPELAGO for rheumatic pains, and *kedros* oil for the cure of cutaneous diſeaſes. But olive-oil does not often enter into their curative methods: ſometimes the loins are rubbed with it, when a perſon has ſtrained himſelf; and the natural parts of women, to facilitate delivery, &c. &c. A Turk, commanding a galiot belonging to the Grand Signior, and enjoying, in the ARCHIPELAGO, the reputation of a perſon replete with knowledge in phyſic, adviſed, in my preſence, a man tormented by acute nephritic pains, to rub with warm olive oil his loins, belly, and groin: but the oil was not to be pure; it was neceſſary to throw into it a large lark, and boil it in the oil.

As for extreme unction, the Greeks have no other opinion of that ſacrament than the catholics; it is adminiſtered nearly in the ſame manner, and they do not conſume in it more oil, which proves that they imagine it

it not to be a final reſource or remedy, endowed with a miraculous gift.

A topical preparation of origany, boiled in wine, and applied on the region of the ſpleen, is one of the hereditary recipes, preſerved in the iſlands of GREECE, for curing inflammations, obſtructions, and pains of that viſcus. I muſt add, that it is one of thoſe which I have ſeen ſucceed the beſt, from the relief which it fails not to give in thoſe ſorts of complaints. But, in pointing out this remedy, I muſt add, that its uſe, among the Greeks, is accompanied by myſterious acceſſories, without which they would have no faith in its efficacy. The application of it is to be made only on a certain day of the week, and at a certain phaſe of the moon: the patient is expoſed to the light of that planet; a few grains of ſalt are ſcattered; a few words are pronounced, and the cataplaſm is applied. However, origany is more particularly met with in the Iſland of SIPHANTO; thence it is commonly procured: its name, in vulgar Greek, is *rigano*.

To eat away the ſuperfluous and fungous fleſh of wounds and ulcers, the Greeks powder them with ſugar, and apply over them ſome bruiſed plant or ſome ointment. In

other parts of the LEVANT, the Turks, in order to cauſe ulcers, boils, carbuncles, even thoſe of the plague, to ſuppurate, and to ſoften and diſpel ſwellings, bruiſes, inflammations, and other accidents of that nature, make uſe of *opuntia* leaves, roaſted for a quarter of an hour on the aſhes, and applied as hot as it is poſſible to bear them. Doctor SHAW adds, that they are alſo made uſe of in the gout, and that with all imaginable ſucceſs *. One of the remedies which the Greeks employ the moſt frequently for reducing tumours, and every ſpecies of enlargement, is to paint in black ſeveral croſſes on the ſkin. The latter, at leaſt, which is connected with a religious creed, may very probably not effect a cure; but it has nothing hurtful, and we cannot ſay as much of many others.

When any one has had a fall, the Greeks think to determine with preciſion the inward part which has ſuffered, by rubbing, with the yolk of an egg boiled hard, all the body of the patient: the place where the yolk of the egg breaks, indicates the internal part which has been hurt. But there is no re-

* SHAW's Travels, 4to. vol. i.

medy more abſurd, and at the ſame time more prepoſterous, than that uſed in the ARCHIPELAGO for curing the inflammation and enlargement of little kernels in the neck and under the root of the tongue, a diſorder which is there very common. This remedy conſiſts in rubbing gently the glans of a man over the throat and neck of the patient. The Greeks of theſe countries are acquainted with no other remedies for ſuch complaints; and I have ſeen women have recourſe to them with much gravity and the greateſt poſſible confidence: ſo true it is, that it is the corruption of ideas, and conſequently of morals, which conſtitutes the indecency of words and things!

On the uninhabited iſlets of the ARCHIPELAGO, ſtill more than on the uncultivated grounds of the large iſlands, rue grows in abundance. The little Iſlands of SAN GIORGIO and SANT EUSTACHIO, which form on one ſide the roadſtead of ARGENTIERA, are clothed with this plant. The modern Greeks call it *apigano*, and they make uſe of an infuſion of it for killing the worms in children: but they make a much greater conſumption of it as a preſervative from the witchcraft occaſioned by ſiniſter looks; they place the

plant whole in ſeveral parts of their houſes, and they wear its ſeeds as an amulet on different parts of the body. This ſuperſtition, however, is ancient; and we find it conſigned in works which, had they not been filled with ſimilar abſurdities, would not have obtained the honours of immortality.

The little pimple, which comes ſometimes on the eyelids, is known by the Greeks of the ARCHIPELAGO under the name of *acrida*, which is alſo that of the graſshopper; and the remedy is to pierce this pimple with a grain of barley.

The only remedy that is employed in the diſeaſe which, from the extremity of ARABIA, has ſpread over all EUROPE, the ſmall-pox*, conſiſts in hartſhorn diſſolved in water.

The Greeks treat bites of ſerpents by deep inciſions on the wound with a razor, ſo that the blood flows copiouſly, and by applications of VENICE treacle and ſow-thiſtle, which they call *tchokolus*. I ſhall reſume this article, when I come to ſpeak of the animals natural to thoſe countries.

* AARON of ALEXANDRIA, a prieſt and phyſician of the ſeventh century, is the firſt who made known the ſmall-pox, in a treatiſe in the Syriac language.

My

My intention not being to preſent a complete ocurſe of the practical phyſic of the iſlanders of the ARCHIPELAGO, I ſhall ſtop here to ſpeak of death, which ends by deſtroying all mankind, whether they be ſurrounded by learned phyſicians, or abandoned to the hereditary routine of empiriciſm: they have, for every curative reſource, nothing but recipes, the greater part ſuperſtitious, like thoſe of the old women of GREECE. It is not, however, very certain that people die ſooner in countries where there are no phyſicians, than in thoſe where they are common: it is not the fault of phyſic, but that of the men who have frequent need of it, from the exceſſes of an intemperate and irregular life.

All the expreſſions and marks of grief that the moſt lively ſenſibility can inſpire are diſplayed among the Greeks, on the death of a perſon beloved, and preſent ſcenes extremely affecting. Regret, tears, melting adieus, attend the departed to the grave; it is not the cold and momentary tranſports which cuſtom preſcribes, all the movements of which etiquette regulates and marks out, and which affect not more thoſe who are witneſſes of them, than thoſe who appear to be moved by them. There, nothing is feigned;

grief takes its full ſcope, and one throws one's ſelf into the arms of death, with the certainty of living for a long time in the memory and in the hearts of one's relations and friends; a conſoling idea, which makes one deſcend into the grave without regret, and ſmoothens the road of eternity.

The ſhades of the dead do not wander forſaken amidſt the ſolitude of tombs; parents and married people frequently go and fix them by their prayers and their ſobs; and theſe duties of ſentiment, entirely diſdained among nations that boaſt of their civilization, as if it could conſiſt of the exceſs of inſenſibility, are performed and renewed with the ſame frankneſs, and with the ſame marks of remembrance and grief. Frequent offerings of cakes, wine, rice, fruits, and other diſhes, adorned with flowers and ribands, are carried to the grave; they are there conſumed and diſtributed; and this ſort of repaſt, in which the Greeks likewiſe endeavour to make the dead perſon participate, is called *coliva*. The prieſt bleſſes it, and takes a good ſhare of it. Abundant alms approximate to wretchedneſs the misfortune of the ſoul; what death would have eaten in bread, meat, and fruits, during a whole year, is diſtributed to the poor.

poor. Mourning, as well as every ſign of affliction, is prolonged; the men ſuffer their beard to grow; the women neglect their dreſs: all avoid aſſemblies, even thoſe of the church; and by the negligence which reigns in their exterior, and the dejection of their countenance, demonſtrate the profound melancholy by which they are overwhelmed.

I was one day called, in great haſte, to bleed a young and charming *papadia:* the reader may remember that this is the name of the wife of a *papas,* or ſecular prieſt. She had, as I was told, fallen into a ſwoon, in conſequence of a violent remedy which had been adminiſtered to her. I found her extended on her bed in a room rather large, but heated by ſeveral fires, and ſtill more by about two hundred perſons, who were in lamentation. The extreme heat of this apartment would have been ſufficient to ſuffocate a perſon in the beſt health. On my approach, the crowd made way; a ſilence, which was ſcarcely interrupted by a few ſmothered ſobs, reigned in the apartment: I was regarded as a man who was going to pronounce an oracle: every eye, as well as every one's attention, was directed towards me; an uneaſy hope had taken poſſeſſion of every mind. The

young woman ſeemed to ſlumber; her cheeks had loſt nothing of their colour, and her roſy lips were agreeably cloſed againſt each other. She was, nevertheleſs, without movement, without pulſe, and without reſpiration: a few drops of volatile alkali, introduced into her noſe, made no impreſſion; her extremities were cold, and every thing announced that ſhe no longer exiſted. Her relations, who ſurrounded the bed of death, did not think that all had been done; they required the trial of a bleeding; but the particular ſound conveyed to my ear on introducing my lancet into her arm, demonſtrated to me that it was entering into dead fleſh. I announced that every hope was loſt; andſcarcely had I finiſhed theſe words, when all thoſe preſent, men and women, crowded round the corpſe, threw themſelves on the bed, at the ſame time ſtriking themſelves on the forehead, tearing their hair, and venting cries of deſpair. They called on the dead woman with a loud voice, requeſted her to live, and entreated her not to forſake them. I found myſelf in a very awkward predicament: I was no longer ſeen, no farther attention was paid to me. I was ſqueezed on all ſides, puſhed on the bed, and almoſt ſmothered. I had much difficulty to extricate

extricate myſelf from this embarraſſment, and force my way through the crowd, in order to eſcape from a place which no longer preſented any thing but the delirium of affliction.

The next day, I ſaw the funeral proceſſion of this ſame woman: ſhe was borne on a kind of litter, with her face uncovered, and dreſſed in her wedding clothes. Her mouth was filled with cotton: it is a univerſal cuſtom, among the nations of the EAST, to ſtop cloſely with cotton every aperture of the body; and the Greeks never fail, when a perſon has expired, to open doors and windows, in order that the angels may come in and go out freely.

A great number of perſons formed the proceſſion. In towns, hired female mourners vent plaintive cries; but this luxury of grief is unknown in the greater part of the iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO; no one is paid to cry, and people cry themſelves with much bitterneſs. The female relations of the dead woman were particularly diſtinguiſhable, from the exceſs of their groans and the movements of their affliction: they ſtruck and tore their breaſt; their long hair, unbraided and undreſſed, fell looſe on their ſhoulders and

and neck, and from time to time they pulled off locks of it; the blood guſhed from their head, and their tears were mingled with the drops of blood which flowed from their cheeks, torn by their nails. It is not poſſible to paint the agitation of ſoul with which theſe feeling and loving women were tranſported; and I was ſo ſtruck by it, that I ſhall long preſeve the impreſſion of melancholy left on my mind by the violence of their affliction.

CHAPTER

CHAPTER XXX.

State of agriculture in the iſlands of the Archipelago.—Ivraie.—*Practices uſed in the ſowing of corn.—Mixture of corn.—Two months' corn.—Manner of preſerving corn.—Hares.—Vulgar error reſpecting thoſe animals.—Rabbits.—Sporting dogs.—Foxes.—Moles.—Weaſel.—Hedge-hog.—Birds which live conſtantly in the iſlands of the* Archipelago, *and thoſe which are birds of paſſage.*

IN the courſe of this work, I have preſented ſeveral details concerning the agriculture of the Orientals in general, and of the Greeks in particular. To theſe I ſhall add others that will complete the knowledge of the ſtate in which this very important branch of public economy is in our days in the LEVANT.

Agriculture, the energetic ſpring of the proſperity of nations, and the ſource of their riches, languiſhes wherever it is oppreſſed by ſlavery and an arbitrary and violent government. If we compare its preſent ſituation in countries

countries where the climate and the ſoil concur to invite and preſerve fertility, with what it was formerly, and what it may once more become there, the mind is again tormented by the painful recollections which ariſe at every ſtep.

The farmers of moſt of the iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO have neither means nor induſtry. Two ſorry oxen there draw a bad plough, the ſhare of which ſcarcely divides the ſurface of the ſoil. One ſingle ploughing precedes the ſowing; the ſower follows the plough, and ſcatters the ſeed to right and left. The harrow is not in uſe; accordingly the ſeed ſown is partly the prey of ſeveral ſpecies of animals which arrive in ſeed time, that is, in the month of November, and particularly ring-doves.

The little attention that is paid to the choice of wheat ſeed, the wild plants which grow at liberty in the fields, and there ſcatter their ſeeds, render the crops extremely encumbered by a foreign and frequently hurtful vegetation. Tares, which the Greeks call *ira*, are there very abundant; and as they do not always take time to ſeparate them from the good grain, eſpecially during the years of ſcarcity, which the deteſtable adminiſtration

of theſe iſlands renders frequent, the bad effects of its mixture is felt pretty frequently in the bread; violent headachs and pains of the ſtomach, dimneſs of ſight, in ſhort, complete ſtupefaction are the conſequence of this bad food, the fruit of negligence and a certain ſign of a miſerable agriculture.

But the Greeks think to redeem the indifference which they betray in their rural labours, by ſuperſtitious practices, more ſcrupulouſly obſerved than the cares of a good culture. The firſt day of ſowing time is a holiday for the owner; he dreſſes himſelf in his beſt clothes, invites his friends, and ſpends with them the day in feaſting and diverſion. All the time that the ſowing laſts, one muſt not give, nor ſuffer fire to be taken from one's houſe to that of any neighbour: this precaution is the only one of which the Greeks make uſe for preſerving their wheat from the rot.

Theſe bad cultivators frequently ſow the ſame field with two ſorts of ſeed at a time; an operation which is imitated in ſeveral of our countries, by mixing wheat and barley, or one of theſe two grains with rye, and which good agriculture reprobates. In fact, the crops which this mixture produces loſe in quality and in quantity; for the maturity of both theſe

theſe plants not taking place at the ſame time, if the cultivator wait till the moſt backward grain be ripe, the ears of the other loſe their corn, and become empty: if, on the contrary, he gather in his harveſt as ſoon as the moſt forward grain is ripe, the other, which is not ſo, produces almoſt nothing, and ſpoils the good by its mixture at the mill, and in being made into bread. It appears that the legiſlator of the Jews was ſenſible of the inconveniences of the mixture of ſeveral ſpecies of corn in ſowing land, in uſe in the EAST, when he forbids them to ſow together two different ſorts of grain.

When, in this mixture of corn-ſeed, wheat and barley are in equal quantity, the Greeks call it *migadi*; when there is more barley than wheat, the ſame mixture takes the name of *yénima*. They ſow a ſort of wheat which they call *diminiti*, that is, of two months, becauſe, in fact, it requires only two or three months to arrive at its maturity. This ſpecies is much eſteemed in the LEVANT; it yields more flour in proportion than other corn, and the bread which is made of it is finer and better flavoured. It is ſown in March or April; its ſtalk riſes leſs than that of the other

other wheats, but the ſtraw which it furniſhes is reckoned to be hurtful to cattle.

For cutting the crops, ſickles are made uſe of in GREECE; the ſheaves are carried to a threſhing-floor made in the fields; oxen and aſſes tread them under foot, and cauſe the grain to come out of the ear. The corn is afterwards collected; it is winnowed, and buried, for forty or fifty days, in holes prepared for receiving it every year: the Greeks aſſert, that after that time it keeps better, and that it is never attacked by weevils. The utility of this very ſimple method ought to induce us to make a trial of it in our countries, where we have ſo much difficulty in preſerving corn from the ravages of inſects.

Game is in plenty in the iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO; but it is there laborious to purſue it through thick buſhes, or on a ſoil cloſely ſtrewn with rocks, or covered with ſtones. Hares are there very common; their fur is gray, in which they differ from ours, which are fawn colour, brown, or almoſt red. They are equally common in TURKEY, and on the continent of GREECE. The law of MAHOMET, as well as that of the Jews, forbids the uſe of the fleſh of the hare; but the Turks of CONSTANTINOPLE, SALONICA, and

and the other large trading cities, having become leſs ſcrupulous obſervers of the dietetic regimen preſcribed by their religious code, have determined to purſue hares and eat them. The only precaution which they take, when they have brought down any game, is to haſten to bleed it in the neck, in order not to infringe a law which forbids them to make uſe of the fleſh of an animal that has not been bled; and this precaution hurts the flavour of game, and in particular deprives the hare, whoſe blood is very ſweet and delicate, of that which contributes moſt to make it a good diſh.

The Greeks of the ARCHIPELAGO, who have preſerved to the hare its ancient name of *lagos*, are alſo great deſtroyers of this ſpecies of game. They go in queſt of theſe animals on the rocky mountains, of which their iſlands are formed; they nimbly climb to the top of the ſteepeſt; they clear the precipices; and in theſe excurſions, fatiguing to exceſs, and even dangerous for an European who might attempt to follow them, they ſeem to diſpute the palm with the bouquetins which inhabit the ſame rocks, and which they likewiſe find means to ſurpriſe in retreats inacceſſible to all others but theſe iſlanders.

The

The leverets of GREECE, like all thoſe of the more ſouthern countries, have all their hair curling at their birth, and while very young. The ſame appearances have produced, in all places, nearly the ſame errors, which are accredited more or leſs, according as the number of intelligent obſervers is more or leſs conſiderable. It has been ſaid (this is not ſolely a popular error, it has been written by grave authors) and, in general, it paſſes for a certainty in the LEVANT, that hares are hermaphrodites; that the males engender like the females, or rather, that there is no diſtinct ſex in this ſpecies of animals, ſince, paſſing alternately from the one to the other, they are males during one month, and females during another month, and ſince Nature has condemned them thus to change, every thirty days, enjoyments and functions, which would form a mode of exiſtence the moſt whimſical that can be imagined. This ridiculous opinion, wholly deſtitute of ſenſe, and which is owing to accidents rather trifling in the genital parts of hares*, is alſo adopted by the Europeans who

* *See* the details of the conformation of thoſe parts, in the *Hiſtoire Naturelle des Quadrupèdes*, by BUFFON, SONNINI's edition, vol. xxiv. page 203, and following.

frequent the LEVANT. I have often had to maintain warm disputes on this subject. Hares were instanced to me, as being well acknowledged for males, in whose inside young ones had been found on opening them. But what appeared a demonstration to eyes prepossessed, and little exercised, was in mine no more than a very simple effect of an inattentive examination; and as I was very far from yielding to this pretended proof, ignorance, besides, being now and then accompanied by rudeness and vulgarity, my adversaries ended by being furiously angry at my obstinacy in contending against what they called incontestable proofs.

Rabbits, to which warmth appears favourable, are also very numerous in the EAST. They are seen in the Islands of CYPRUS, of CANDIA, &c. and in those of the ARCHIPELAGO. These animals are likewise to be found on the uninhabited islets which are in the vicinity of the large islands, or of the continent.

I saw no pointers in the Islands of the ARCHIPELAGO; but I there found a very handsome breed of setters, which would be excellent for the field, if they were broken in: they have an admirable nose, and are lively, indefatigable,

indefatigable, and very enterprising. I had for a long time a dog of this breed, which, though of a small size, poſſeſſed undaunted courage. One day I ſhewed him two goats ſtraying on ſome rocky hills, by the ſea-ſhore. Great as was the agility with which thoſe animals leaped from rock to rock, my dog preſently overtook one of them, and ſtrangled it immediately; he then ſet out in purſuit of the other goat, which, finding itſelf preſſed, jumped into the ſea, and ſwam near a quarter of a league towards the offing. The dog followed it thither, alſo overtook it, and, after a conteſt of a few minutes, in the middle of the ſea, which was, nevertheleſs, agitated by a ſwell, he killed it, and brought it dead to my feet on the beach, where I was waiting for him. Theſe Greek dogs have, in general, eyes very ſmall, but extremely quick.

The other wild quadrupeds of the Greek iſlands are by no means numerous. No wolves are found there; but in the larger iſlands, ſuch as the Iſland of Scio, are foxes, whoſe race is much ſmaller than that of our countries, and their tail much more buſhy. The Greeks call this animal *alepo*. Moles are there very ſcarce, as well as in other parts of the East. I never met with any: I was

aſſured, however, that ſome were to be found, but in very ſmall numbers, in the Iſle of Scio, and that they did not there make themſelves remarkable by the havock which renders them ſo formidable to our farmers. The Greeks of the Iſland of Scio call the mole *tiphlopoudikos*, that is, blind rat. Rats, mice, as well as martins and weaſels, are animals common to almoſt all the iſlands.

The laws of ancient Egypt placed the weaſel under their ſafe-guard; it was even worſhipped in Thebaïs. There are ſtill to be found in Egypt traces of this ancient reſpect for an animal, which is there common, and which may enter the houſes, and commit havock with impunity. This ſort of conſideration for a noxious animal has been extended and preſerved throughout all the Levant. The Turks, as well as the Greeks, ſuffer it to live among them in full liberty; it has nothing to dread, either from the one or the other: the Greek women carry their attention ſo far as not to diſturb it, and they even treat it with a politeneſs truly whimſical. "*Welcome*," ſay they, when they perceive a weaſel in their houſe; "*come in, my pretty wench; no harm ſhall happen to you here: you are quite at home; pray make free*

"*free*, &c. &c." They affirm that, ſenſible of theſe civilities, the weaſel does no miſchief; whereas every thing would be devoured, add they, if they did not behave to this animal in a courteous manner. The name that it bears in theſe countries is as much connected with the manner in which it is welcomed there as with the beauty of its ſkin. The Turks call it *gullendiſh*; and the Greeks, *niphiſta:* theſe two words ſignify, in both languages, *bride.*

The hedge-hog which I had ſeen in LOWER EGYPT, in the environs of ALEXANDRIA, where the Arabs call it *confheſs*, is ſcattered all over the LEVANT. I met with it in CARAMANIA, in NATOLIA, in MACEDONIA, in the MOREA, and in ſome of the Iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO.

Almoſt all the ſpecies of birds of our countries are met with in the LEVANT, whether they live there conſtantly, or do no more than paſs thither. I ſhall give the enumeration of theſe ſpecies, at the ſame time diſtinguiſhing thoſe which are ſedentary in theſe countries from the ſpecies which are there only birds of paſſage. I ſhall not ſpeak of them all, but merely of thoſe which I have obſerved. This account will throw freſh light

on the regular migrations of birds: the different routes which they follow, and the chart of which has been drawn by natural inſtinct, are not yet much known; and this itinerary of the birds of our countries, forced to change every year their climate, in order to provide for their ſubſiſtence, is one of the moſt curious and moſt intereſting facts of natural hiſtory.

The period of the paſſage of birds into the Iſlands of GREECE varies according to the winds which there prevail. At the end of the ſummer of 1779, this paſſage was delayed, becauſe the northerly winds, which are accuſtomed to reign during that ſeaſon, blew much later than in other years, and the birds which then go to the ſouth, were obliged to wait for a wind that might favour them in their paſſage. Accordingly, the period of their paſſing was of ſhorter duration that year; the birds, eager to arrive in countries where they were to find warmth of temperature and abundance of food, haſtened to repair thither as ſoon as the favourable wind had ſprung up. Another general remark is, that in the ſpring-paſſage, that is, on their return to our climates, birds travel in bodies leſs numerous, and are more diſperſed than

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in their paſſage in autumn; and this ſort of diſunion conſtitutes their ſafety: being ſeparated, they more eaſily eſcape the ſnares which are ſpread for them on all ſides on their journey. They are alſo very lean in the ſpring; while, generally ſpeaking, they are very fat in their autumnal migration.

Hawks remain during the whole year in moſt of the Greek iſlands. They retire by night into the holes of the rocks, and particularly into thoſe of the walls of ſolitary windmills. They lay their eggs at the end of April, or at the beginning of May, and their little brood is hatched in the beginning of June; theſe little ones are then covered with a gray down, which they preſerve upwards of a fortnight. Theſe birds are great deſtroyers of graſshoppers and crickets; they are very greedy after them, and, from this natural appetite, they render ſervice to agriculture, by ridding it of noxious inſects, which generate with a diſaſtrous fecundity, under a climate favourable to their multiplication. I brought up a young bird of prey of this ſpecies, taken in the neſt a few days after its birth; I ſcarcely gave it any thing but graſshoppers, crickets, and flies; it appeared very

fond of them, and greedily ſwallowed thoſe inſects quite whole, however large they might be.

Several other ſpecies of birds of prey, ſuch as the falcon, the kite, &c. appear to remain all the year in the Iſlands of the LEVANT, and there ſpread alarm and carnage among innocent families of little birds. Some kites, however, are there birds of paſſage. Birds of night are there likewiſe ſettled, and never quit their gloomy abodes, which they cauſe to re-echo with their mournful cries in ſilence and darkneſs.

Among the ſmall ſpecies of birds of prey, the paſſage of the rufous magpies is very remarkable. Their annual migration, pretty generally admitted, has been unſeaſonably diſputed by a modern naturaliſt*. It is about the 14th of the month of Auguſt that they paſs into the ſouthern Iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO, in order to repair to Egypt, and probably alſo to the coaſt of BARBARY. Notwithſtanding the length of their voyage, as, in this hot ſeaſon, they meet in their route with a great quantity of inſects, on which they principally ſubſiſt, they are then very

* LE VAILLANT, *Hiſtoire Naturelle des Oiſeaux* d'AFRIQUE, article *magpie*.

fat

fat, and are, beſides, delicate eating. The Greeks catch a great many of them; but it is on their arrival on the ſhores of EGYPT, that is, towards the middle of September, that they afford greater ſcope to their own deſtruction, by their union and fatigue, which deprive them of the faculty of eſcaping the ſnares that are laid for them. The Arabs purſue them with nets, and they take a ſomewhat conſiderable number of them, which they carry alive to market, after having confined their bill with one of their large wing-feathers, in order to avoid the effects of their miſchievouſneſs. They do not remain long in LOWER EGYPT, and I imagine that they continue their route towards ARABIA, a country that gives birth to a multitude of graſshoppers, which are, for the magpie, choice food. The Arabs call this bird *dagnoaſs;* the Greeks, *varo-kephalos*, that is, *heavy head;* and the Provençals, *darnagua.*

The vulture, properly ſo called, makes its appearance ſometimes in the iſlands; it is more common on the continent. Its fat is eſteemed, by the Turks and Greeks, a very good topical remedy for curing, or at leaſt for alleviating, rheumatic pains. The name of this bird, in vulgar Greek, is *ſkannia.*

If,

If, from this claſs of deſtructive birds, living only by rapine or feeding on carcaſſes, we paſs to the peaceable and uſeful gallinaceous tribe, we ſhall find in the poultry-yards of ſeveral parts of the LEVANT, the moſt beautiful ſpecies of hens, and at the ſame time the moſt fruitful.

In the plains and on the mountains, red partridges, and bartavelles or Greek partridges, are very numerous; but it is as difficult to get at them as at hares, when, quitting the vallies, they retire to ſteep mountains, in the midſt of rocks, precipices, and clumps of buſhy and cloſe ſet ſhrubs. They there feed on the fruits of the juniper, the *kedros*, the lentiſk, &c. &c. The berries of this laſt-mentioned ſhrub, in particular, occaſion their fleſh to contract, eſpecially in the hind parts, a ſtrong bitter flavour. Theſe partridges are the moſt plentiful, as well as the beſt game in the LEVANT. They are, in ſome of the Iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO, in prodigious quantities, and are there ſold at a very low price. The young partridges are hatched in the beginning of May, and they are good to be eaten in June. They are moſt commonly purſued with a gun; the fowler keeping himſelf concealed, or ſurpriſing them when they come

come to drink near ſome ſpring. In ſome places, ſnares are ſet for them, or they are encloſed in nets; in the MOREA, they are caught with a net, into which they are attracted by the image of a partridge painted on canvaſs.

The gray partridge is not known in the EAST. A Greek might, like ATHENÆUS, again manifeſt ſurpriſe that all the partridges of ITALY had not a red bill, as they had in his country. We begin to meet with the gray ſpecies in the north of TURKEY, in the environs of CONSTANTINOPLE and of SALONICA, together with the red ſpecies; the former keeps on the plains; and the latter, on the mountains.

Independently of theſe two ſpecies of partridges, we alſo ſometimes ſee in the EAST another ſmaller ſpecies, which is called *the little gray partridge*, or *the DAMASCUS* partridge of ALDROVANDUS *, a very roving ſpecies, but which does not always follow the ſame routes; it is alſo a bird of paſſage in ſeveral countries of EUROPE, and even in northern climates; they there appear in great bodies, but at diſtant intervals, not regularly

* *Tetrao damaſcinus.* LINN.

every

every year, and only for ſome days; ſo that the paſſage of theſe very rambling birds cannot be fixed, nor the route which they take well aſcertained, any more than the motive of this erratic life. Neither does it appear that the ſeaſon or the nature of the climate has any ſort of influence on the excurſions of this ſpecies of partridge; it is often found, and in great numbers, on the heated ſands of EGYPT, where it is called *katta:* on the other hand, it appears as frequently, during the cold months of December and January, in the north of TURKEY, where it arrives in autumn, and I ſaw very numerous covies of them, which made their appearance only for a few days in a diſtrict of the *ci-devant* LORRAINE, during the winter of 1783.

In ſome places of this work, as well as in that which I have publiſhed reſpecting EGYPT, I have ſpoken of the prodigious flocks of quails that arrive in the EAST, prodigious from the long paſſage that birds, which ſcarcely appear to poſſeſs the faculty of flying, venture to undertake over the waters of the ſea, as much as from the innumerable multitude of which they are compoſed. Theſe birds, in order to proceed to their deſtination, follow a uniform route, from which they ſeldom deviate;

ate; they do not paſs to all the Iſlands of the MEDITERRANEAN, whereas they abound in ſome, and a ſmall number only is ſeen in others. The Greeks call them *ortiki*. The inhabitants of the Iſland of SANTORIN, where quails paſs in very large bodies, lay in an ample ſtock of them, and preſerve them pickled in vinegar. On the coaſt of the MOREA, and particularly at MAINE, they are ſalted, and afterwards brought for ſale to the Iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO: at CERIGO, they are ſalted in the ſame manner; but, thus prepared, quails are very bad eating. Every where death awaits theſe feeble travellers, and they do not eſcape, but with conſiderable difficulty, the inconſtancy of the elements and the ſnares of man. In the ſpring, they are ſeen to paſs into the Iſlands of the LEVANT, which happen to lie on their route, commonly on the 20th of Auguſt, and to repaſs there, on the 20th of April, in order to return to our climates; ſome remain, or ſome are paſſing during the whole month of September.

In the moſt northern Iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO, pheaſants are ſometimes ſeen during the winter; they come thither from the woods of THESSALIA, where they are in great numbers. The peaſants of the environs

virons of SALONICA breed them in the country-places, for the purpoſe of bringing them to the market of the town, and they are there ſo common, that they may be purchaſed at a very low price. It is principally the diſtrict of the little town of SERES, eight or nine leagues to the eaſt of SALONICA, that furniſhes them in greater abundance. Maſters of veſſels who, during the winter, frequent the port of SALONICA, ſcarcely ever fail to lay in a ſtock of live pheaſants, which they keep on board in hen-coops, and feed with wheat. Theſe birds appeared to me larger and handſomer than thoſe of our countries. It is an amuſement for the rich Turks of SALONICA, to fly at them birds of prey, which they carry on their fiſt. When the pheaſant takes its flight, the bird of prey, which they let looſe, hovering above, compels it to perch on ſome tree; he then places himſelf on another over its head, and keeps it in ſo great a fright that it ſuffers itſelf to be approached and eaſily taken quite alive.

When the winter is cold, cocks of the wood make their appearance in the higheſt mountains of the ſome of the iſlands, and of thoſe which are ſituated fartheſt to the ſouth, ſuch as the Iſle of MILO. They quit them as ſoon

as the weather becomes milder. It would be an eaſy matter to kill ſome of them; but the Greeks ſet no value on this bird, which they call *agrio gallo*, wild cock.

Above theſe ſame mountains, which offer to the ſight nothing but ſhattered rocks, ravens are ſeen hovering during the winter, together with ſome vultures. Theſe two ſpecies of birds, equally ignoble, endeavour, when poiſed in the air, to diſcover rats and ſmall lizards, which are numerous in the clumps of ſhrubs that grow between the rocks. The name of the raven, in modern Greek, is *koraka*.

The hooded crow* never quits the iſlands; I have ſeen it there in every ſeaſon of the year. The carrion crow†, on the contrary, is there a bird of paſſage. Numerous flocks of them are commonly ſeen on the ſea ſhore, where they feed on whatever is thrown up by the waves; in the evening they retire into the crannies of the rocks, in order to paſs the night. The Provençals have preſerved to this

* *Corneille mantelée.* BUFFON, Hiſtoire Naturelle des Oiſeaux.—*Corvus cornix.* LINN.

† *Corbine* ou *corneille noire.* BUFFON, Hiſtoire Naturelle des Oiſeaux.—*Corvus corone.* LINN.

ſpecies

ſpecies its ancient French name of *graille* or *graye*, and the Greeks call it *kouronna*. They make uſe of its fleſh cut into pieces as bait, which they faſten to their fiſh-hooks; they practiſe this manner of fiſhing, when bad weather prevents them from putting to ſea.

Magpies are to be found almoſt in every place where there are many trees, and they quit not the diſtrict in which they have taken up their abode.

Flights of ſtarlings appear ſometimes during the winter; and although their fleſh is black, lean, hard, and ill-taſted, the Greeks kill them and eat them. It is ſaid, that when the ſtarling, whoſe name, in modern Greek, is *mavro poullo*, that is, black bird, eats figs or dates, it becomes fat, and makes a dainty diſh.

A bird, common in our woods and remarkable for its brilliant colours, the jay, which the preſent Greeks call *falko kouronna*, and the Provençals *bluret*, arrives, like moſt of the other birds of paſſage, about the middle of Auguſt, in the Iſlands of GREECE, and at the ſame time as the turtles. During this journey, it is commonly ſeen alone, perched on the buſhes, and making flights, ſhort and low. Its fleſh is at that time much loaded

with fat; but it is not better than in our countries, on account of the diſagreeable flavour with which it is impregnated. Independently of the jays of paſſage, there are ſome which remain all the year in the large iſlands of the northern part of the ARCHIPELAGO, as that of SCIO. Theſe birds there build their neſts, and lay in them four, five, and even ſix eggs; they feed on olives, cherries, walnuts, and acorns of the ſpecies of oak which grows there; they make great havock in the plantations of fruit-trees, and are not contented with devouring the fruit on the very trees, but make of it heaps, which they carefully conceal in the ground, and which they know how to find again in caſe of need. The Sciots amuſe themſelves in rearing jays; they cut the ſtring of their tongue, an operation which gives to certain ſpecies of birds, and to jays in particular, the facility of articulating words, and imitating the cry of different animals. In the Iſland of SCIO, I have heard jays which mimicked extremely well the barking of the dog, the mewing of the cat, the bleating of the ſheep, &c. The name of this bird, in modern Greek, is *kiſa*.

The bird with brilliant plumage, which makes our woods reſound with its ſonorous

whiſtling, the loriot, arrives in the ſouthern Iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO, at the period when figs are in a ſtate of maturity, that is, at the beginning of Auguſt; this fruit is choice food, and gives to its fleſh a delicacy which it wants in the countries where the fig-tree does not grow. And, indeed, the Greeks give to this bird the name of *ſykophagos*, fig-eater, and, by corruption, in ſome iſlands, that of *ſykopha*. The paſſage of the loriots in theſe iſlands ſcarcely laſts till the month of September; the greater part proceed to LOWER EGYPT, where they in like manner ſeek fig-trees, as well as mulberry-trees; the inhabitants ſhoot them on account of the good quality of their fleſh; but they ſtay little more than a fortnight in this part of EGYPT, and they purſue their route towards the EAST, in order to find there a ſuitable climate and an abundance of food.

Tſiclès is the name which the Greeks of the ARCHIPELAGO give to thruſhes, without diſtinction of ſpecies. Some are birds of paſſage, and others do not quit the iſlands. During the ſummer, they are found ſcattered in the gorges of the mountains; on the approach of the fowler, they penetrate into the middle of the thick buſhes, whence it

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is a very difficult matter to make them riſe. In the winter they approach the inhabited places; they keep and run on the ground, alight on high ſtones, points of rocks, little garden-walls, and ſhrubs which grow between the rocks; and when the cold is felt with any degree of ſharpneſs, and the north wind blows with violence, as I ſaw happen in the month of January 1779, thoſe birds ſeek ſhelter round the habitations, and even enter the houſes, in order to ſecure themſelves from the wind and cold.

Like the thruſhes, the blackbirds are, ſome birds of paſſage, others ſtationary in the LEVANT; thoſe which travel thither, arrive and depart at the ſame period as the thruſhes; they all live there in the ſame manner; but they do not collect in ſmall bodies, but are commonly ſeen in pairs.

I ſhall add nothing to what I have ſaid * of the bird with a ſonorous voice, with a powerful and agreeable warbling, with which we are acquainted by the name of *ſolitary blackbird*; it is not peculiar to the Iſland of CANDIA; it alſo frequents the remote and ſtony mountains of ſeveral Iſlands of the

* *See* Chapter xx. page 390.

ARCHIPELAGO: in ſome of them it bears the name of *pſaro ſmeroula.*

Bee-eaters*, which the Provençals call *ſirènes*, and the Greeks *meliſo orghi*, enemies to bees, arrive in the Iſlands of the LEVANT in the middle of Auguſt, and repaſs in ſpring. Their rapid flight renders them difficult to be killed; however, they are very good eating. I have frequently ſeen them, in the month of April, aſſemble in numerous flocks in little diſtricts planted with olive-trees, in order to paſs the night; but they there make only a temporary ſtay, and the next day I no longer found them in the ſame place. Theſe birds fly and hover in the manner of ſwallows, in order to catch the winged inſects, of which they make their habitual food; and, in this ſeries of rapid movements, they vent a ſimple, grave, and ſoft cry, accompanied from time to time by a cracking noiſe of their bill.

At the ſame time as the rufous wood-chats, that is, about the middle of Auguſt, the fly-catchers† are ſeen to make their appearance.

* *Le guêpier.* BUFFON, Hiſtoire Naturelle des Oiſeaux.—*Merops apiaſter.* LINN.

† *Le gobe-mouche*, première eſpèce, BUFFON, Hiſtoire Naturelle des Oiſeaux.—*Muſcicapa griſola.* LINN.

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In the LEVANT, theſe two ſpecies are not even diſtinguiſhed, at leaſt by different names; the Provençals who frequent thoſe countries, confound them under the denomination of *darnagua*, and the Greeks of the ARCHIPELAGO under that of *varo kephalos*, heavy head, which they alike give to the rufous wood-chat and to the fly-catcher; and this character of the bigneſs of the head, compared to that of the body, is ſo ſtriking, that, in ſome parts of our ſouthern departments, it is commonly ſaid of any one who has a big head, that he has the head of a *darnagua*.

No ſooner do the farmers begin to ſow the fields in the Greek iſlands, at the period of the firſt rains, which fall at the end of October, than there are ſeen to arrive from all quarters conſiderable flights of ring-doves, troubleſome paraſites, that rob the land of its corn, the ſource of the riches which the cultivator intruſts to it. There are ſome of different ſizes, which appear to form certain races: they are birds of paſſage, and, moſt commonly, very fat, different from wild pigeons, which remain during the whole year, live and build their neſts in the holes of the rocks, and whoſe fleſh is dry and hard. The

modern Greeks give the ring-dove the name of *faſſa*, and to the wild pigeon that of *peliſteri*.

The fleſh of the turtles, whoſe paſſage is regular in the ARCHIPELAGO, is ſcarcely better than that of the wild pigeons, when they appear there in the ſpring, for about twenty days: they do not ſuffer themſelves to be approached without difficulty, and their leanneſs conſtitutes their ſafety; for, in that ſeaſon, no one takes much trouble to get within gun-ſhot of them. But towards the end of the month of Auguſt, when they return, they acquire more plumpneſs and delicacy. Then the Greeks make war on them, and deſtroy them in great numbers. It is particularly in the Iſland of POLICANDRO that they abound on their return, and that they meet with almoſt certain death. Thoſe which avoid deſtruction, come the following year to expoſe themſelves to the ſame dangers that they had eſcaped: inſtinct, which traces to birds of paſſage the route on which they are to find a certain ſubſiſtence, is more powerful than the care of preſerving themſelves from the ſnares that await them on every point of their journey, becauſe this inſtinct is an inſpiration of Nature; and the acci-

dents and dangers with which man ceaſes not to encompaſs them, are accidents which may be conſidered as out of the ſphere of Nature, and which, conſequently, cannot be conceived but by man, the only animated being that makes it his principal ſtudy inceſſantly to counteract her.

The inhabitants of POLICANDRO pickle in vinegar, in large jars, turtles, in the ſame manner as thoſe of SANTORIN preſerve quails. The latter likewiſe preſerve turtles, but in a ſmaller quantity than at POLICANDRO, becauſe the paſſage of thoſe birds is leſs numerous in their iſlands.

However, thoſe turtles of paſſage are of the ſpecies which has the top of the head and of the neck cinereous; the breaſt of a vinous colour; a ſort of collar of black feathers, tipped with white, checquered above and below the neck; the back and the rump cinereous and fawn colour; the reſt of the under part of the body white, with a vinous tint, which grows weaker in proportion as it approaches the lower part of the belly, where it diſappears entirely; the greater wing-coverts the neareſt to the body, black, with a broad fawn colour border; the others cinereous; the wing-quills brown above, and gray

brown beneath; the tail blackiſh above, black beneath, and tipped with white; the firſt quill, that is, the outermoſt on each ſide, having its exterior ſide entirely white; the feet red; and, laſtly, the claws black. When theſe birds are roaſted, their red feet change colour, and there exudes from them drops of a liquor of a beautiful gold yellow hue.

To the cuckoo is given the name of *trigono kracti*, which ſignifies *conductor of turtles*, becauſes it paſſes into the Iſlands of the LEVANT at the ſame time as thoſe birds; and as the ſpecies of the cuckoo is leſs numerous, commonly no more than one is ſeen in the middle of a flight of turtles, of which it ſeems to be the leader. The Greeks call it *kſefteri*, and they ſay of a perſon who has a ſtep and countenance lively, but at the ſame time by no means natural, that he walks like a *kſefteri*, or a cuckoo. It is important to obſerve, that this bird, when arrived in another country, changes almoſt all the natural habits which we diſtinguiſh in it; for it finds not, on the iſlands which ſerve it as reſting-places during its journey, foreſts nor even thickets ſufficiently large and cloſe for it to retire to, as in our countries: it ceaſes alſo to be a ſolitary bird; it keeps with other birds of its

ſpecies,

ſpecies, and even travels in numerous company with a ſpecies which is quite foreign to it; neither does it cauſe to be heard the ſong of love, which its name expreſſes, and which, among the common people, is likewiſe the declaration of infidelity. Very lean at the time of its paſſing in ſpring, it returns in autumn loaded with fat, and is then reckoned to be very good eating.

The two epochs of the paſſage of the hoopoe into the Iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO are at the end of March and the beginning of Auguſt. This bird, which the Provençals name *putugue*, is called by the Greeks *xilopedino*, wood-chicken; at SCIO, *ſula petino*. It is a tolerably good ſort of game, and is eaten, not only in the LEVANT, but in ITALY, and even in PROVENCE. It is ſomewhat remarkable that, in all the ſouthern countries, the hoopoe is eaten, while, in our northern departments, it cauſes diſguſt by its bad ſmell.

Sparrows, the bold paraſites of our plains, aſſemble in the EAST, as with us, wherever Fertility has fixed her abode; their concourſe round the habitations, and under the roofs of farmers, is a certain ſign of the abundance which there reigns, and of the flouriſhing ſtate of agriculture; we may, without fear

of

of being miſtaken, judge of the richneſs or the poorneſs of a diſtrict by the number of ſparrows which are there to be found; and wherever there are none, poverty prevails. It is for this reaſon that thoſe birds, very common in the LEVANT, and the habitual gueſts of the people of that country, do not frequent the miſerable Iſland of ARGENTIERA, except for a few moments at the period of ſowing-time, when they come to ſteal part of the ſeed; while they inhabit, in great numbers, the more fertile iſlands, and in particular that of MILO, whence they come ſometimes to ARGENTIERA to exerciſe their eaſy robberies.

The bunting, which the Greeks call *pſaroni*, paſſes at the beginning of winter and in the month of March. In autumn, it is ſeen on the ground, in the ſown fields, and ſometimes perched on lentiſks. In ſpring, it frequents theſe ſame ſtripped fields, and alights more frequently on ſhrubs: it does not bide alone, but always in flocks, which the inhabitants purſue, becauſe the bird is, in general, tolerably fat, and good to be eaten.

Another ſpecies of ſmall bird, which paſſes in conſiderable numbers into ſome of the Iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO at the ſame period

period as the bunting, is the *lougaro* of the Greeks, which is our greenfinch.

The ſtone-chatter, a reſtleſs bird, appeared to me not to quit the Iſlands of the LEVANT, where it finds, all the year round, inſects on which it feeds.

I preſume, on the contrary, that the wheat-ear is not attached the whole year to the ſoil of the iſlands, and that it comes thither in the ſpring, and at the end of the autumn. In GREECE it bears the name of *aſpro-kolo*, or *cul-blanc* (white arſe), by which it is commonly diſtinguiſhed in our countries. It lives alone, like the ſtone-chatter, and individuals of this ſpecies do not aſſemble in flocks; they almoſt always keep on the top of ſhrubs, or on the point of rocks.

The bird which, from its vivacity, and the *allegro* of its ſong, has deſerved to repreſent the emblem of gaiety*, the chaffinch, does not always remain in our climates during the winter. The ſpecies is half-ſedentary and half-roving; and obſervation has not yet led to a diſcovery of the cauſes which determine chaffinches to ſeek, at a diſtance, a mild

* The French ſay, proverbially, *gai comme un pinſon*, as we ſay, *gay as a lark*.

temperature,

temperature, while others remain in the midſt of our rural habitations, where they brave the rigour of the hoar-froſts, and ſhare with the ſparrows the food which the farmer's wife diſtributes to her poultry. Some are ſeen to arrive in the Iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO, towards the end of October, and they go thither with attributes which lead to their deſtruction; their fleſh is then fat and tolerably delicate. But among the great number of theſe birds which I ſaw in the iſlands, I remarked ſome whoſe plumage indicated young birds of the year, which might lead me to ſuſpect, with much probability, that thoſe chaffinches came not from any great diſtance, and that they had neſtled in ſome neighbouring land. The Greeks of the greater part of the iſlands call the chaffinch *moudakio*; and the people of SCIO, *ſpinos*.

Nightingales are ſeen ſometimes, but rather ſeldom, to paſs into the ſame iſlands, at the end of the ſummer: it appears that their route is directed more to the ſouth; they live, during the ſevere ſeaſon, in the verdant and ſmiling plains of LOWER EGYPT, and perhaps alſo on the coaſts of SYRIA and of BARBARY. During their paſſage, and their ſtay on ſhores which are foreign to them, ſince they do not there

there buſy themſelves about their reproduction, they warble not thoſe melodious ſongs, thoſe varied and brilliant modulations, with which they, night and day, make our woods and orchards reſound: they are ſilent, becauſe they have not to ſing their loves.

In ſome parts of ASIA MINOR, as NATOLIA, the nightingale is rather common, and quits not the foreſts and groves which it has choſen. The modern Greeks have, very nearly, preſerved to this bird, whoſe admirable ſinging does not ſave it from the gluttony of men, the name of *aedon*, which their anceſtors had given it, and they ſtill call it *adoni*, *aidoni*, or *agdoni*.

The charming ſpecies of little birds, whoſe aſpect of ſweet innocence, and whoſe engaging familiarity, cannot obtain favour in the eyes of man, who ſacrifices every year thouſands of them to the luxury and profuſion of his table, the red-breaſt, arrives in the LEVANT in the month of October: the Greeks call it *yanni*, or *yannaki*. It ſeldom paſſes into the open iſlands; but it ſeeks thoſe which are ſhaded by numerous clumps of trees or ſhrubs, ſuch as the Iſle of SCIO, where the red-breaſts repair in crowds, and embelliſh the little woods of lentiſks and wild myrtles, with which that luxuriant

luxuriant iſland is filled. These birds, for the moſt part, there find nothing but death: their number, as well as their innocent confidence, betrays them; and the Greek bird-catcher, like the fowler of our countries, wages againſt them a war the more cruel, as they come, with the candour of an intereſting weakneſs, and preſent themſelves, as it were, of their own accord, to the ſnares which he ſets for them.

The ſame name of *yanni*, or *yannaki*, which the inhabitants of moſt of the Greek iſlands give to the red-breaſt, is likewiſe applied by them to another little bird of a different ſpecies, and which has ſome red on a part quite oppoſite to that which is ſo agreeably coloured in the red-breaſt: I mean the red-ſtart, whoſe paſſage, or rather two paſſages, that of autumn and that of ſpring, take place at the ſame epoch as thoſe of the red-breaſt. I have ſeen theſe little birds flutter about the rocks and ſhrubs the moſt expoſed to the ſun, in the early part of the ſpring, or at the beginning of March: they do not keep preciſely in flocks, but are met with in tolerably great numbers, more ſcattered than aſſembled, in the ſame diſtrict.

We ſhould frequently be led into an error, were we to adhere to the denominations which the

the modern Greeks give to birds, particularly to the ſmall ſpecies, in order to diſtinguiſh them from each other. We have juſt ſeen that they confounded, under the ſame name, the red-breaſt and the red-ſtart; and this name is alſo applied to other ſmall birds. Thus it is that they call *ſkardalio*, the common linnet, and a few other ſpecies. Linnets are alſo birds of paſſage among the Greeks of the ARCHIPELAGO: ſometimes numerous flights of them are ſeen; they alight on the brambles, with which the ſoil is covered between the maſſes of rocks that compoſe the mountains.

The goldfinch, which bears the name of *karedino*, does not appear all the year in moſt of the iſlands: it is not, however, a traveller, or a bird of paſſage; but it prefers keeping in the large iſlands, and on the lands of the continent, where it finds places of ſhelter more ſafe, retreats more numerous and more agreeable, than on the naked ſummit of the mountains, which form the greater part of the Iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO.

But on all theſe eminences, the remnant of a ſubmerged continent, are ſeen wagtails and bergeronnettes: the former keep more willingly on them argin of rivulets and pools; the others

others prefer ſpreading themſelves over the encloſures, and endeavour to approach the animals which are there fed, and they all diffuſe a certain movement of life and gaiety on a ſoil frequently rugged and melancholy. Wagtails appear to be birds of paſſage, and bergeronnettes not to quit the places which have given them birth. During the winter, ſometimes on rocky hills, and at a little diſtance from the ſea, I met with bergeronnettes, which, to judge of them from their plumage, were very young. I was told, indeed, that thoſe birds neſtle, even in winter, on the little deſert iſlands, whence they afterwards ſpread themſelves throughout the larger ones. In EGYPT, I had ſeen a bergeronnette almoſt entirely of a dazzling white: at MILO, I met with a variety of the wagtail, all the under part of whoſe body was white.

Common larks make their appearance, frequently in flocks, in the plains of theſe elevated countries: here, too, is alſo ſeen the titlark, which is a bird of paſſage, and which the Malteſe call *bourboli*. I am inclined to think that a few other birds of the ſame genus paſs hither regularly twice a year.

Here likewiſe are ſeen ſeveral ſpecies of the tit-mouſe; but I was not able to aſcertain whether

whether they remained here always, or whether they were only temporary viſiters.

The common wren*, which the Provençals call *putois* and *père de la bécaſſe*, is a paſſenger in the Iſlands of the ÆGEAN SEA: it repairs to the coaſt of EGYPT, and is ſeen pretty frequently, during our winter, in the ever-heated environs of ALEXANDRIA, and of other places in LOWER EGYPT. This little bird, eaten quite raw, is, according to ſome phyſicians of the LEVANT, an excellent remedy for the ſtone in the bladder.

I alſo ſometimes perceived, in clumps of lentiſks, the little bird which, from its orange colour crown and its weakneſs, has obtained the name of *roitelet* (the gold-creſted wren); and I have ſome reaſon to think that it fixes its abode in places which afford it a mild climate and abundance of food. At SCIO, it is called *vaciliſko*, and in other iſlands, *regolago*.

Fig-peckers, birds whoſe delicate and ſavoury fleſh conſtitutes one of the diſhes in requeſt for our tables, arrive in the LEVANT in the month of September, and there look for the figs as they ripen. The Iſland of

* *Motacilla troglodytes.* LINN.

MALTA is a reſting-place for theſe little birds, as well as for other ſpecies, ſuch as quails, tit-larks, &c. &e. Their paſſage into that iſland is ſuſpended when the weſt and north-weſt winds blow, and they arrive there only with thoſe from the eaſt and ſouth-eaſt.

On the 17th of March, I ſaw for the firſt time, in 1780, the ſwallow make its appearance at ARGENTIERA. The wind had been ſeveral days to the north-eaſt; but in the night it had ſhifted to the weſt, the ſky was ſerene, and the ſun hot. The Greeks, like their anceſtors, call the ſwallow *kelidoni*. The martin comes into the north of TURKEY in the month of April, and ſtays there to build its neſt.

During the winter, the Iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO are ſometimes covered with woodcocks, which are alſo birds of paſſage. They come thither moſt commonly from the mountains of the MOREA, where the cold is ſharp, owing to the quantity of ſnow which falls there, and they go as far as LOWER EGYPT to ſeek a milder temperature. Snipes are likewiſe ſeen there during the ſame ſeaſon.

Lapwings, like woodcocks, are winter travellers; they ſpread themſelves over the iſlands when the cold, which there is never ſevere,

ſevere, begins to be felt, that is, in the month of January: they are but paſſengers, and they ſcarcely appear there for more than ten or twelve days. But on the coaſt of CARAMANIA, thoſe birds are aſſembled in great numbers during the winter. In ſome of the Iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO, the lapwing is called *pélékoda*; and in others, *chimanitès*, or winter-bird.

Sea-larks, which the Provençals call *charlots de plage*, ſnipes, curlews, and particularly a multitude of ducks of ſeveral ſpecies, frequent the ſhores and waters of the iſlands, eſpecially during the winter ſeaſon, and are, with other water-fowl, the enumeration of which would occupy too much room in a work not ſolely intended for natural hiſtory, a reſource which adds to the abundance and the variety of food.

CHAPTER XXXI.

Tortoiſes. — Snails. — Fiſhes of the Archipelago. *— Importance of the fiſhery in the* Archipelago. — *Common cuttle-fiſh. — Eight-armed cuttle-fiſh. — Nautili. — Tethys. — Conchylia. — Sea-lungs. — Sea-urchins. — Sponges. — Cruſtacea. — Water caltrops.*

SEA-TORTOISES are rather common along the coaſts of GREECE, and particularly near thoſe of the MOREA. Land-tortoiſes appeared to me ſcarce in the Iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO: true it is, that they are not there in requeſt, becauſe they are not good to be eaten. They are ſometimes employed for a very ſingular uſe; they are intruſted with the care of ridding the houſes of the enormous quantity of fleas with which they are infeſted, eſpecially during the ſummer. It is ſufficient, ſay the Greeks, to place one of theſe tortoiſes in an apartment, to free it of fleas: thoſe inſects throw themſelves in crowds, and with a ſort of rage, into the

mouth of the tortoiſe, which the heat occaſions it to keep open; it ſwallows them as faſt as they place themſelves there, and it thus ends by deſtroying them all in the courſe of a few days. I have ſeen French navigators in the LEVANT have great confidence in this property of tortoiſes, and not fail to take ſome on board, in order to rid their ſhips of fleas, which there alſo multiply prodigiouſly in theſe warm climates.

On the early rains of the autumn, the inhabitants of the Iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO pick up in the fields little ſnails, which at that time make their appearance there in very great numbers*: they dreſs them, in order to eat them; and it is a very indifferent diſh, which has no other merit than that of coſting nothing, though this is of ſome conſequence in the eyes of poor people, whom the government devotes to wretchedneſs, by ſtifling in them every germ of induſtry.

A very deep ſea, whoſe waters cover a bottom almoſt entirely formed of ſand and ſtones, and bathe a conſiderable extent of lands and rocks, which afford retreats and

* The preſent Greeks call this ſmall ſpecies of ſnails *ſaliaka*.

food to fiſhes, is an immenſe reſervoir, whence men may derive inexhauſtible means of ſubſiſtence. But fiſhing, like every other branch of induſtry, languiſhes under an adminiſtration which copiouſly pours forth diſcouragement; and the want of activity, which prevails in this important branch, a ſource of comfort and proſperity for people that can give themſelves up to it without conſtraint, renders fiſh leſs abundant and dearer than it ought to be in the iſlands ſubject to the Ottoman empire. In fact, this part of the MEDITERRANEAN abounds with fiſhes of different ſpecies. I have already made mention of ſeveral of them: it remains for me to indicate a few others.

I have not unfrequently ſeen caught large ray-fiſh, of the ſpecies which our fiſhermen call the *paſtenague* (the fire-flaire); and the modern Greeks, *ſalakie*.

The *ſcarus*, a fiſh famous among the ancients, and which the inhabitants of modern GREECE ſtill call *ſkaros*, is common in their ſea. It keeps in the holes of the rocks which ſkirt the coaſts; and it is even aſſerted, that it lives there in numerous ſocieties, with fiſhes of its ſpecies, and that theſe ſocieties have a chief, who directs them, and whom they follow

follow as ſoon as he iſſues from the retreat which they have choſen. It is, however, a very difficult matter to draw them out of their dark abode: and, indeed, they are never caught with the net, but are taken with hook and line. When the ſcarus has bitten at the hook, he is made faſt to a ſtring, and left in the water; then all thoſe which are near the place quit their holes, ſurround the captive, and end by being hooked themſelves. They feed on herbs, and the plants which grow in the water. The ſcarus is ſtill dreſſed as in former times: the ancients ſaid, that, on the table of the gods themſelves, ſcari, whoſe entrails had been taken out, ought not to be ſerved up; at preſent, even, they are never gutted, to appear on the table of men, and their inſide is a delicate viand, which alſo communicates a flavour to their fleſh.

Another ſpecies of rock-fiſh, which is frequently taken in the ſea of GREECE, is the *ſea-perch*. It has there preſerved the name of *perke*, or *perkis*, which it bore among the Greeks of antiquity, and which is now pronounced *perka*. This is a fiſh very common in the MEDITERRANEAN, whereas, according to WILLUGHBY, none are to be found in the

waters of the OCEAN*. BELON had made the ſame aſſertion before the Engliſh naturaliſt†. This fiſh does not become very large; it ſcarcely ever attains a foot in length; its fleſh is ſoft, and far inferior in point of flavour to that of the river-perch, to which ſome people have thought proper to compare it: anciently it was held in no eſtimation, and OPPIAN ranks it among the fiſhes which the fiſherman haſtens to throw again into the ſea‡. It cannot be doubted that GALEN meant the river-perch, when he ſays that it is a true rock-fiſh very well-taſted, although its fleſh is ſoft and ſhort§. RONDELET has aſſerted improperly that GALEN had in view the ſea-perch‖; WILLUGHBY, with reaſon, reproves the French ichthyologiſt on this ſubject, and he affirms, that it is inconteſtable, that the river-perch, from the goodneſs and wholeſomeneſs of its fleſh, is far preferable to the ſea-perch**. It is probable that RONDE-

* Hiſtoria Piſcium, lib. iv. cap. iii. page 327.

† De Aquatilibus, lib. i. page 268.

‡ ——— "*Piſcator promtus in æquor*
"*Demittit percas et piliacos coracinos.*"

§ De Alimcnt. Facult. lib. iii.

‖ Hiſtoria Piſcium, lib. vi. cap. viii. page 120.

** *Loco ſupra citato.*

LET,

LET, living on the ſouthern coaſt of FRANCE, participated in the opinion of thoſe of our time, who, accuſtomed to ſea-fiſhes, of which they ſtill heighten, by tart and heating ſauces, the flavour that the ſea-water occaſions them to contract, no longer have any reliſh for the fleſh of freſh water-fiſhes, and diſdain it.

The Greek fiſhermen alſo take with hook and line another ſpecies of ſaxatile fiſhes, which live, like the ſea-perch, in the holes of the rocks, but whoſe fleſh is much more wholeſome and ſavoury. This is the ſparus, whoſe name of *ſpargo* recalls to mind that which it formerly bore in the ſame countries.

One of the fiſhes the moſt common in the ſea of the ARCHIPELAGO, is the *ſargus* *, named by the ancient Greeks *ſargos*; and by the moderns, *ſargo*. It is a rather indifferent fiſh, whoſe fleſh is hard, and almoſt always as tough as leather, which may even be diſcovered in dreſſing it; for, on being cooked, it ſhrinks and curls up.

Although the ſargus keeps in the cavities of the rocks on the ſea ſhore, as, from preference, it ſingles out thoſe, the foot of which is covered with ooze and mire, it does not

* *Sparus ſargus.* LINN.

there

there acquire the good qualities which make other fiſhes, inhabitants of ſtony places, a delicate food. It is commonly taken with hook and line, and the hooks are baited with pieces of crow's fleſh, a paſte compoſed of flour and old cheeſe being firſt thrown into the ſurrounding water, by way of further allurement. But the fiſhermen who take the greateſt number of ſargi, and of all the other fiſhes of the ARCHIPELAGO, are the bold and vigorous divers of the Iſle of SYMI. They ſpread themſelves in all the channels with which the Greek iſlands are encompaſſed; and, while they are employed in fiſhing for ſponges, they make an ample capture of fiſhes with which they ſupply theſe ſame iſlands; and it is then only that this kind of proviſion there becomes cheap. The Symiots commonly make uſe of a harpoon in the form of a trident, with which they pierce the fiſhes that they perceive at a great depth, and eſpecially the ſargi, which, keeping between the rocks of the coaſt, are more eaſily diſcovered.

I ſaw but ſeldom the *ſkarmos* of the modern Greeks, which appeared to me not to differ from the ſea-trout.

The ſilvery-eyed red ſparus * is common,

* *Sparus erythinus.* LINN.

not

not however on the coaſts of all the iſlands of the MEDITERRANEAN; but there is not any near which it appears more frequently than the little Iſland of LAMPEDOSA. The Greeks call it *lythrina*, a word corrupted from that of *erythinos*, which it bore anciently. This is a greedy fiſh, which not only devours fiſhes much ſmaller than itſelf, but alſo cruſtacea. In all thoſe which I opened, I found remains of the *ſquilla gibba*, and the examination that I made of their interior parts, convinced me of the error of ARISTOTLE, who was of opinion that there exiſted no male in this ſpecies, for I ſaw ſeveral which had neither ſpawn nor ovarium. The fleſh of the ſilvery-eyed ſparus is white, fat, and of an exquiſite taſte; the beſt way of dreſſing it, is by frying, if we except perhaps the manner taught by JOVIUS, of which I have not made a trial, and which conſiſts in frying it as ſoon as it comes out of the water, and in keeping it afterwards, for a few days, in orange juice. "Thus "dreſſed and preſerved, the ſilvery-eyed red "ſparus," ſays JOVIUS, "ſurpaſſes all other "fiſhes in point of the flavour and delicacy "of its fleſh*." PLINY has ſaid that this

* *De Romanibus Piſcibus*; Romæ, 1524. folio.

ſpecies

ſpecies of ſparus, left to putrify in wine, creates a diſguſt for that liquor in thoſe who drink of it; but I do not believe that it is neceſſary to go a great way for a ſilvery-eyed red ſparus, in order to produce ſuch an effect, and every other fiſh that might be left in a ſtate of putrefaction in wine, would be fit to inſpire with diſguſt thoſe who ſhould have the courage to taſte of it.

Among the rare fiſhes in the ARCHIPELAGO, muſt be reckoned the *king of the mullets**. I met with but a ſingle one during my ſtay in the LEVANT, and the Greeks to whom I ſhewed it, in order to know its name, were not acquainted with it.

But the real mullet, the bearded mullet†, that exquiſite fiſh, which the cruel luxury of ancient ROME cauſed to be cooked over a ſlow fire, on the tables even, and under a glaſs, in order that the gueſts might enjoy the ſight of the beautiful ſhades produced by the ſlow degradation of its charming red colour, and, as it were, feed their eyes with the ſufferings of the fiſh, before they ſatiated themſelves with its fleſh; the real mullet, I ſay, is frequently taken in the ARCHIPELAGO.

* *Mullus imberbis.* LINN. † *Mullus barbatus.* LINN.

The

The ſhielded *pleuronectes* * is there more ſcarce; the Greeks call it *gloſſa*.

Atherines, of the ſpecies which has been called *joel*†, and to which the modern Greeks have preſerved the name of *atherno*, derived from that of *atheriné*, which it had anciently, aſſemble in very numerous ſhoals near the ſhores of moſt of the iſlands, and ſometimes a prodigious quantity of them is taken. The following is the moſt uſual manner of fiſhing for them. Being provided with a long ſtick, at the end of which is faſtened a horſe's tail, or a piece of black cloth, a man walks along the ſea-ſhore, dragging it in the water in calm weather. The atherines gather in a crowd round it, and follow its motions; in this way they are conducted into ſome opening formed by two rocks, which are cloſed by a net faſtened to two ſticks; the water is agitated, and the little fiſhes, wiſhing to eſcape, are withheld by the net, the extremities of which are drawn together.

The atherine, held up to the light, is diaphanous; and when it is dreſſed, even by frying, the ſpots or little black ſpecks of its back are ſtill very apparent, as well as the

* *Pleuronectes paſſer.* LINN. † *Atherina hepſetus.* LINN.

longitudinal

longitudinal ſtripe of the ſides of the body, which become only blackiſh and more narrow. However, there are frequently found among the atherines that are taken, ſmall fiſhes which the Greeks do not diſtinguiſh by different denominations, although they are of ſeparate ſpecies, and even of ſeparate genera.

They call the ſea-gudgeon *, common in their ſea, *kouvion*.

I ſometimes amuſed myſelf, on the ſolitary rocks of ſome of the iſlands, in holding a line ſuſpended above a tranquil and tranſparent water; little fiſhes preſently quitted the crannies of the rocks in which they dwell, and threw themſelves on a deceitful bait. In this manner, I very frequently caught the ſmall variegated labrus †, with ſhort and delicate fleſh, but the variety and luſtre of whoſe colours ought to ſecure it from the gluttony of men. Moſt of the modern Greeks call it *illeca* or *igluca*; and thoſe of RHODES and CANDIA, *afdellès* and *zillo:* the Italians give it the name of *donzellina*, and all theſe names recall to mind its elegant form and dazzling appearance, on which gliſten with a mild luſtre the moſt lively and moſt harmonious colours.

* *Gobius paganellus.* LINN. † *Sparus ſmaris.* LINN.

The

The *ſmaris* alſo increaſed the produce of my fiſhing; this little fiſh, of a form as elegant as the ſmall variegated labrus, but far leſs richly adorned, is likewiſe delicate eating. It was formerly called in GREECE *ſmaris*, and now it ſtill bears a name nearly ſimilar, *ſminarida*. The iſlanders of the ARCHIPELAGO alſo diſtinguiſh it by the name of *tratto pſara*, net fiſh; the *traitte* or *tratta* is a ſort of net with cloſe meſhes, with which is taken a great quantity of theſe little fiſhes that abound in the openings of the rocks, of which the coaſts of the iſlands are almoſt entirely formed. The fiſhermen of PROVENCE call them *giarrets* or *jarrets*, not from the latin word *girus*, as BELON aſſerts, but on account of their form, the outlines of which reſemble thoſe of the calf of a leg well-rounded †. The Italian ſeamen, who frequently fiſh for the ſmaris tribe, leave them for a few days in a baſket with ſalt; they then ſtring them as a ſpecies of chaplet, which they hang to dry in the ſun; thus dried, theſe fiſhes are reckoned very good eating.

The ſpecies of dog-fiſh, which commonly with us bears the name of *poiſſon-chat* or

† *De Aquatilibus*, lib. i. page 226.

chat

chat rochier *, and which the Greeks call by the generic denomination of *ſquilo pſaro*, dog-fiſh, delights in playing around the rocks of the iſlands. The ſeaſon in which it is moſt frequently taken is the month of March; its fleſh, although very white, and not ſo bad as that of ſeveral fiſhes of the ſame genus, is extremely ſoft and inſipid, and has rather a wild taſte, which occaſions it to be diſdained, when any other can be procured. Its ſkin is an article of trade, like that of the dog-fiſh. It feeds on little fiſhes, cruſtacea, and molluſca.

This multitude of fiſhes of every ſpecies, the greater part of which are of an excellent quality, may become an important object of induſtry and commerce to the inhabitants of the Iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO, as a mean of maintaining abundance in their habitations. The fiſhery of narrow arms of the ſea, not requiring large boats, nor very expenſive nets and implements, and being frequently carried on from the ſhore itſelf, the profit which it might procure would become more conſiderable than in any other poſition, and its activity, at the ſame time

* *Squalus ſtellaris.* LINN.

that

that it would afford the comforts of life, would form ſeamen capable of conducting veſſels through the labyrinth which the group of lands and rocks render very difficult to traverſe.

The large ſea-polypes, although affording a food leſs agreeable and leſs wholeſome than fiſhes, are, notwithſtanding, from their abundance, a reſource of ſome value to the Greeks, who, not being able to eat fiſh during the continuance of their Lents, make a great conſumption of polypes in thoſe periods of abſtinence. Their ſea is full of common and eight-armed cuttle-fiſhes, ſpecies of molluſca very numerous; they catch a tolerably large quantity of them, but which is not ſufficient for their wants, becauſe the fiſhery, as I have already remarked, is very far from having among them the degree of activity of which it is ſuſceptible. There are annually brought to them, from the coaſt of BARBARY, a great many common and eight armed cuttle-fiſhes, dried in the ſun, after having been cut through the middle longitudinally, and they are thus obliged to purchaſe this Lent provender, which they might procure themſelves in their own country. They call the common cuttle-fiſh *ſoupia*: the back-bone of this

polype becomes an article of houſehold furniture of the Greek women; they uſe it by way of a pin-cuſhion. In ſome places, the Iſle of Scio in particular, the women find a more refined uſe for this bone of a friable ſubſtance, ſince it ſerves them to heighten their beauty; they calcine it, and reduce it to a very fine powder, with which they blacken their eye brows.

The ſolid and almoſt oſſeous part of the common cuttle-fiſh is, for the Greek fiſhermen, the bait with which they uſually garniſh their lines, in order to take the eight-armed cuttle-fiſh *, which they call *ktapodi*. A lead fixed to the line carries down to the bottom of the ſea the cuttle-fiſh bone, to which are faſtened hooks; the eight-armed cuttle-fiſh, which keeps faſt hold of the rocks by its arms or tentacula, quits them, and attracted by the whiteneſs of the cuttle-fiſh bone, comes to ſeize it, and gets itſelf hooked. Dog-fiſhes are frequently caught with theſe lines intended for catching the eight-armed cuttle-fiſh. The fleſh of this molluſca is hard, tough, and difficult of digeſtion; it ſometimes contracts an odour of muſk, which it

* *Sepia octopus.* Linn.

owes,

owes, no doubt, to the nature of the food on which the animal has lived; on being dreſſed, it aſſumes a reddiſh colour, which it communicates to the water and to the other ingredients in which it is cooked. In order to ſoften the membraneous ſubſtance, of which the body of the eight-armed cuttle-fiſh is formed, it is beaten for ſome time, or thrown repeatedly, and with force, againſt the rocks, and at the ſame time moiſtened with freſh water. The Greek women, charged with this buſineſs, never fail, in performing it, to eat raw the nut, that is, the mouth of the polype, and this bit is to them a ſort of dainty. On ſome parts of the coaſt of PROVENCE, eſpecially in the environs of TOULON, where a great many polypes are eaten, it is affirmed that, by cutting its fleſh with a piece of large reed, it becomes leſs hard. In the LEVANT, and even in ITALY, theſe polypes are alſo pickled in vinegar; in ſhort, the fragments of their ſubſtance are one of the baits of which the Greek fiſhermen make a rather frequent uſe. It ſometimes happens, that being in the water, a man is ſeized by the arm or leg by a large polype, which clings to it ſo cloſely with its tentacula and ſuckers, that it would be impoſſible to

get rid of it, did he not haſten to turn back what the fiſhermen* call the *capuchon*, that is, the head of the animal, and this operation cauſes its immediate death.

The fiſhermen of the LEVANT are perſuaded that the univalved ſhells, called *nautili*, ſerve as a habitation to polypes, and this opinion, which is met with wherever there are fiſhermen and polypes, does not appear doubtful. The paper nautili are taken in the ARCHIPELAGO. There are alſo found, on the coaſts of the iſlands, ſea-ſlugs or *tethys*, which the iſlanders call *cochylis*.

Numerous ſpecies of conchylia likewiſe add to the abundance of aliments which man draws from the ſea, in countries favoured by Nature, and ſo abuſed by barbarous uſurpers. Here are found the oyſter, the pholas, the clam, which the Greeks call *achivada*, the whelk, *phoſphira* of the Greeks, the muſcle, the tellina, the little ſpecies of porcelana, commonly called cowry, and by the Greeks *gouronnaki*, that is, little pig; the limpet, in Greek *patellida*, the *pinna marina*, or the *nacre* of the Provençals, &c.

The Greeks alſo make a vaſt conſumption of ſea-urchins, which are in great plenty on the coaſts of their iſlands; there are ſome black,

black, violet, purple, with the point of the ſpines white, ſome reddiſh, flaxen colour, and dirty white: almoſt all of them have the fleſh of a ſaffron yellow; they are much fatter during the winter, and, it is added, when the moon is at the full. This latter obſervation had been made by the ancients *, and it has been perpetuated, though it is no eaſy matter to aſſign its cauſe. Another remark, which has become proverbial among the fiſhermen of the MEDITERRANEAN, is, that one muſt not go a fiſhing for ſea-urchins when the ſea beats on the ſhore, that is, when it is rough. This fiſhery is, in fact, productive only in calm weather. Sea-urchins keeping at a ſmall depth clinging to the rocks, they are eaſily perceived when the ſea is ſmooth; they are detached with a hook fixed to the end of a long ſtick, which is accompanied by a ſmall piece of net, that ſerves to envelop the ſea-urchin, and bring it out of the water, when it no longer adheres to the rock: other fiſhermen dive and ſeize them with the hand.

The large ſea-urchins, whoſe violet colour

* *Luna alit oſtrea et implet echinos.* Lucilius apud Aul. Gell. lib. xx. cap. xiii. — *See* alſo PLINY, MANILIUS, &c. &c.

points are tipped with white, are not eaten; their flesh is soft, black, and unwholesome. This is the case with another smaller species, black, and with very long spines. The Provençals call these urchins *Jews*, and they consider them bad, and even dangerous to be eaten. I have sometimes seen persons amuse themselves with chewing sea-urchins whole, with their stony shell, without having their mouth hurt by the prickles, which they had the address to arrange in such a manner as not to be wounded by them. But several terrestrial quadrupeds devour sea-urchins with pleasure and avidity.

Sea-nettles, with which the surface of the rocks, bathed by waters not much agitated, is frequently covered, are a very common article of food with the Greek islanders, especially during Lent. They call this zoophyte, *kalitziano*.

In the spring, the sponge-fishers spread themselves in the ARCHIPELAGO. These zoophytes, placed at the last link of animated beings, are very common on the sunken rocks of these seas, and they there constitute a branch of commerce. The fishermen detach them from the stones to which they cling, either by diving, or with hooks fixed

on

on long poles; but in whatever manner this fiſhery be carried on, it requires ſerene weather and a calm ſea, which may allow of diſtinguiſhing the ſponges at the bottom of the water.

Several ſpecies of cruſtacea are there equally common, particularly the crab, *kavoura* of the Greeks, the *poupart*, or *koutſonna*, the ſpidercrab, or *kavour ou mana*, that is, the mother of the crabs; Bernard the hermit, or the hermit-crab, the granulated crab*, the *ſquilla gibba*, in PROVENCE, *carambot*, in GREECE, *keridia*, &c. &c. It is not my intention to enter into a minute detail of all the productions of the eaſtern part of the MEDITERRANEAN; this would be an undertaking of too great extent, and at the ſame time miſplaced in a work of this deſcription. I have only endeavoured to give an account of the marine animals the moſt uſeful to man, and to demonſtrate that plenty reigns in the boſom of the ſea, as Nature had fixed it on the land, before Tyranny came thither with her brazen arm to expel it thence, in a manner, and confine it to the waters.

Before I take leave of this ſea, I ſhall ſay a word of the water-caltrops†, which is ſeen to

* *Cancer granulatus.* LINN. † *Trapa natans.* LINN.

 float

float in the ſpring on the ſurface of the waves in the ARCHIPELAGO, and to ſtop on the ſhores of the iſlands. This four-pointed fruit is called by the Greeks *maſkoulla*; they were not able to tell me in what aquatic places of the coaſt it ripened in a quantity ſufficiently great to ſpread itſelf over ſo large an extent of ſea; the young iſlanders collect it, and amuſe themſelves with filling it with gunpowder, in order to make a little exploſion.

In other reſpects, it appeared to me that this water-caltrops of the LEVANT differed a little from that which grows in a great many parts of EUROPE; which leads me to preſume, with much probability, that it is the variety deſcribed in the *Hortus Malabaricus*, and which is peculiar to the EAST INDIES. MORRISON has diſtinguiſhed this Aſiatic variety*; and it is aſtoniſhing that LINNÆUS ſhould not have ſeparated it from the common ſpecies.

* *Tribulus aquaticus major Indicus, caudibus geniculatis, foliis amplis, numeroſis, in roſæ figuram congregatis.*

CHAPTER

CHAPTER XXXII.

Rock of Pyrgui.—*Strait of* Polonia.—*Ruins and tombs.—Another ſort of Cimolian earth.—Indications of a volcano in the Iſland of* Milo.—*Its plains.—Town of* Milo.—*Diſeaſes which prevail there.—Pleuriſies.—Churches.—Lady of* Milo.—*Dreſs of the women.—Their manners.—Errors on this ſubject.—An aperture whence iſſue peſtiferous miaſmata.—Vapour baths.—Lake of hot water.—Sulphur and alum.—Mill-ſtones.—Salterns.—Iron mines.—Sardonyxes.—Catacombs.*

WHEN you quit the narrow and ſandy ſhore, which is below the village of ARGENTIERA, in order to repair to the Iſland of MILO, ſituated to the ſouth, you enter into a confined channel, between the Iſlets of SAN GIORGIO and SANT EUSTACHIO and the Iſland of ARGENTIERA itſelf; this channel forms the harbour for merchant-veſſels. Very near to the coaſt, a rock projects into the ſea, and although it has there opened itſelf a

...ent,

paſſage, the ſpace which ſeparates it from the iſland is ſo narrow, that it is impoſſible for the ſmalleſt boats to paſs. On the rock, which is called *Pyrgui*, is to be ſeen a remnant of an ancient building; there it is, if we muſt credit the preſent iſlanders, that the princes of the iſland fixed their abode.

You then paſs to the foot of the mountain, whence Cimolian earth is extracted, and you enter into a ſmall ſtrait that forms the ſeparation of the Iſlands of Milo and Argentiera, which the Greeks call *Polonia*, and the French navigators the *Pas de Pologne*. In the middle of this paſſage, which is ſcarcely half a league from the one point to the other, there is a ſand-bank and a few rocks, on which the ſea, already pent up by coaſts very cloſe to one another, breaks with fury, and riſes in noiſy billows. This paſſage is not frequented by ſhipping; it is too dangerous; however, with precautions, they can clear it, and ſeveral have ventured into it; they even find a tolerably good anchorage in a bight formed by two capes of the Iſland of Milo, where they have ſeven fathoms water, and a good bottom for holding.

It is in the middle of this ſort of gulf that all the boats which come from Argentiera,

land.

land. On the other ſide, but more towards the Weſt, facing ANTI-MILO, are diſcovered, on the coaſt of ARGENTIERA, ſome ruins which the Greeks call *liniko*, a word that ſignifies habitation of idolaters. Theſe ruins, which I viſited, no longer conſiſt of any thing but a few tombs, dug in ſandy and ſoftiſh rock, the foot of which the ſea waſhes and undermines. Oppoſite and at a little diſtance, a ſmall ſhoal, which bears the name of SANT ANDREA, was formerly connected with the iſland, as cannot be doubted, from the ſhallowneſs of the ſea between the two, there being no more than a fathom in the middle of the channel which ſeparates them, and its bottom is covered with ruins. Among theſe ruins, I diſtinguiſhed two large and beautiful tombs with their capitals, and the opening of a ſubterraneous cave in the ſhape of a well. The ſhoal even of SANT ANDREA, all the ſides of which are ſteep and excavated by the ſea, with the exception of the ſide on an inclined plane, which faces ARGENTIERA, ſtill ſupports ſome fragments of ancient buildings; there are alſo ſeen paſſages of ſubterraneous galleries, in which it would be gratifying to curioſity to deſcend and dig, if that were practicable, without giving umbrage to a government,

government, which has no idea of the importance of hiſtoric monuments, hidden in a ſoil that it profanes. Jealous, not of diſcoveries uſeful to the ſciences, but of imaginary treaſures which it ſuppoſes buried, it does not even endeavour, by digging, to gratify its ſtupid and groſs cupidity, becauſe it fancies that the European alone poſſeſſes the magic power of diſcovering and getting poſſeſſion of gold, which cannot be drawn from the bowels of the earth but by ſome taliſman.

Every thing announces that, in this place, a town of ſome importance has exiſted; here is ſtill to be ſeen the remnant of a canal dug in the rock, into which the water of the ſea enters, and which was a harbour ſufficient for the ſmall veſſels of the ancients: pillars, alſo cut in the rock, and pieces of which are ſtill ſubſiſting, were placed at certain diſtances on the borders of the channel, and ſerved for making faſt the veſſels. I was ſhewn a ſort of place of ſepulture, in which ſome enterpriſing people have dug; their trouble obtained ſome recompenſe, and they thence carried off medals, lamps, earthen veſſels, little idols, and a ſtatue in ſilver.

At the entrance of the Strait of POLONIA, on the coaſt of MILO, which faces the north-eaſt,

eaſt, is extracted a ſort of Cimolian earth, which differs but very little from that of ARGENTIERA; boats alſo come and load with it, in order to convey it to the other iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO: this earth is even ſaid to be preferred to the true Cimolian earth for waſhing, but that it is not ſo proper for ſcowring and taking out ſpots. The Greeks give it no other name than that of *pilo*, which ſignifies clay.

When you land in the Iſle of MILO, you perceive that fires, long ſince kindled, conſume the bowels of the earth; every thing there indicates a ſubterraneous conflagration; and in ſeveral places, the ground, which reſounds under your feet, apprizes you that it is ſupported by vaſt cavities. In one place, mountains are overthrown; in another, calcined rocks ſadden you by their ſhattered and blackiſh ſurface; farther on, ſtones and enormous pebbles atteſt, by their ſubſtance and colour, that they have been thrown up by the exploſion of a volcano; boiling waters iſſue on all ſides; pumice-ſtones are ſcattered about; ſulphur is formed in abundance, and ſhews itſelf even on the ſurface of the ground.

In the midſt of theſe effects of the action of the great conflagrations of Nature, the vege-

table

table earth, which moſtly covers the Iſle of MILO, gently warmed by ſubterraneous heat, is very productive. Corn and cotton are there of an excellent quality, and the vines yield very good wine, as the trees do delicious fruits. Beautiful flowers there form a brilliant and natural carpet; but the plains are moſtly abandoned to ſterility: the quantity of lands lying fallow announces an exceſſive diminution in the population, as well as the criminal indifference of the government. The town of MILO, ſituated in an agreeable plain which leads to the head of the harbour, is no longer any thing but a heap of ruins, where a ſmall number of Greeks ſtill ſtruggle againſt the danger incurred by inhabiting it. Of five thouſand perſons that TOURNEFORT reckoned there, we ſhould ſcarcely find, in our days, two hundred, and almoſt all of them too in a ſtate of languor which inſpires pity. The bad quality of the waters which are there drunk, and the ſtill more pernicious ſtate of an atmoſphere impregnated with ſulphureous and mephitic exhalations, corrupt the blood and humours, make this town a very dangerous abode, and have converted it into a deſert. Strangers even dread to make there a momentary ſtay, particularly during the hotteſt

hotteſt part of the ſummer, and theſe pernicious effects are felt even on board the veſſels at anchor in the harbour.

Almoſt all the inhabitants of this unfortunate town have their legs ſwelled; they are, during the ſummer, ſubject to fevers, either intermittent or ſlow, which occaſion them obſtructions ſoon incurable. After the hot weather, pleuriſies make great ravages, and the quinſy alſo carries off ſeveral perſons, when the very ſupportable colds of the winter are felt. It is aſſerted, that bleeding has been obſerved to be there mortal in pleuriſies, if it be recurred to before the third day of the malady, and that of all thoſe who are bled on the firſt and ſecond day, not one eſcapes. However, the pleuriſy is the moſt common diſorder in theſe countries, whenever the ſoutherly wind, blowing conſtantly, renders the winters very mild; and every where the ſame opinion is entertained as at MILO, on the ſubject of bleeding.

The town of MILO appears to have been well built; but its houſes, at preſent entirely decayed, announce the deſolation by which it is afflicted. The French Capuchins had here a very handſome convent; they have abandoned it, and it is in complete ruins.

It

It is ſaid that, in this place, there were formerly a great many catholics; there no longer remains a ſingle one, and the apoſtolical vicar that is continued to be appointed, without a flock as without a wiſh to be expoſed to diſorders, has retired to ARGENTIERA, where his congregation is ſcarcely more conſiderable, but where at leaſt he breathes a pure air. The Latin church, conſecrated to Saint COSMO and Saint DAMIANO, has fallen away with catholiciſm. The principal temple of the Greeks, dedicated to Our Lady of the Port, conſtructed in 1664, is by no means large, but tolerably handſome; the walls are covered with paintings, repreſenting the hiſtory of the Old and New Teſtament. In another Greek church, called *Agio Karalobos*, is ſeen an *ex voto*, preſented by the ſkipper of a French bark, about eighty years ago: it is a piece of the keel of his veſſel, pierced by a large cetaceous fiſh, which there left a conſiderable fragment of its tooth. The navigator diſcovered it in careening his ſhip in a harbour of the MOREA, and haſtened to depoſit it at MILO, as a mark of his gratitude towards Heaven, that had preſerved him from the danger to which he had been expoſed, through the efforts of this marine animal.

The

The Greeks, who conſider this circumſtance as a miracle, have cauſed to be painted on this piece of wood the image of the Virgin, and to this they attach ſo great a value, that it would be in vain to attempt to purchaſe it.

At the time when I viſited MILO, there lived in that town a lady very rich, and who enjoyed great influence. *KIERA PREGOULINA*, this is the lady's name, was mother to *MAVROYANI*, then drogueman to the famous Admiral *HASSAN Pacha*, ſince inveſted with the principality of MOLDAVIA, and afterwards beheaded, according to the cuſtom of a government, which ſcarcely ever fails to deprive of life and fortune thoſe in whom it ſeemed to have the greateſt confidence. Madame PREGOULINA was extremely polite to ſtrangers, and to the French in particular: her garden was tolerably agreeable, and the artichokes which grew there in great abundance, appeared to me the beſt that I ever ate in my life. Being rather an elderly woman, ſhe lived in retirement, although ſhe might have reſided at CONSTANTINOPLE, and there made a figure; her health did not appear affected by the malignant influence of a reſidence at MILO, and ſhe aſſured me,

on this occaſion, that the women ſuffered from it much leſs than the men.

She wore, like all her countrywomen, the ſtrange dreſs of the females of ARGENTIERA, a dreſs devoid of taſte or grace, and which, ſo far from being advantageous to beauty, is, on the contrary, extremely unfavourable to it. This manner of dreſſing is ſaid to be derived from the higheſt antiquity, and to have been brought from SPARTA to MILO, which is, as is well known, a Lacedemonian colony, whence it has been ſpread, with various changes, into the neighbouring iſlands. But the literati the moſt verſed in ancient hiſtory poſitively affirm, that the dreſs of the Spartan girls was very indecent, and that they were called *phènomèrides*, becauſe they had not even the upper part of the knee covered. However the dreſs of the women of MILO, diſguſting and groteſque as it is, does not offend decency, ſince it exactly envelops every part of the body, and is faulty rather through a contrary exceſs, by giving, in general, a monſtrous ſize, by cauſing the ſhape to diſappear, and by ſpoiling the moſt beautiful forms; ſo that "theſe ladies," ſays TOURNEFORT, "whatever charms they may

"have,

" have, are only fit to be repreſented as " ſkreens or fans*."

Theſe MILO women have been deſcribed under the ſame traits of an exceſſive gallantry as thoſe of ARGENTIERA: it is extremely probable that people have been formerly miſtaken concerning both, and this imputation is at preſent a calumny. How could coquetry fix its abode in the midſt of a deſert infected by peſtilential miaſmata, and which ſtrangers dread to frequent? We find, nevertheleſs, in modern works traces of an old opinion, which the ſlighteſt obſervation muſt deſtroy. An Engliſhman preſumes that theſe women of MILO " equal their mothers in their libera- " lity towards mariners, who are driven by " ſtorms to take refuge in their port; a mode " of conduct which, perhaps, might have af- " forded HOMER the idea of his CALYPSO†," but Mr. IRWIN had not ſeen MILO but from the deck of his ſhip, where the monotony of the voyage was enlivened by ſtories. It is from the ſame ſource that he derived the information which he has publiſhed reſpecting the women of ARGENTIERA, and which he

* *Voyage au Levant*, vol. i. 4to. page 150.

† IRWIN's Travels, vol. ii. page 231.

would have done better to have left where he found it: but what he ſays of them is ſufficiently curious for me to relate here, as a proof to be added to a thouſand others, of the inconveniences to which we are expoſed when we relate from hearſay. This traveller firſts repeats what others had repeated before him, that ARGENTIERA is ſtill more notorious than MILO for the licentiouſneſs of its inhabitants, "and ſeems to "be a general ſeraglio, if travellers are to "be credited, for the mariners of the LEVANT:" but he adds, what no one had ſaid before, that theſe ſeamen of the LEVANT "are "bound to leave their offſpring for the be-"nefit of the mothers, that the boys at an "early age are ſent to ſea, and that the "girls, in due time, ſupply the place of their "virtuous parents!" This is not yet all, and the following is an obſervation quite new, which belongs to Mr. IRWIN, and which no one will be tempted to diſpute with him. "The inhabitants of ARGENTIERA," ſays he, "are entirely females, except a prieſt or two, "who give them abſolution for their ſins*." Who will abſolve the traveller for having told us ſuch tales?

* IRWIN's Travels, vol. ii. pages 231 and 232.

At

At ſome diſtance from the town of Mitylene, I was ſhewn an aperture in the ground, whence iſſued vapours ſo deſtructive, that by placing an animal only at the mouth of this vent-hole, it fell dead on the ſpot. Some perſons, no leſs rash than ignorant, had attempted to deſcend into it, and had there periſhed. M. DE CHOISEUL GOUFFIER, as I was informed, perſuaded the inhabitants, that from this ſubterraneous gallery emanated the exhalations which had made of their town a field of diſorders and death. They have ſtopped it up; but the deleterious miaſmata having apparently other iſſues, the atmoſphere is not, on that account, leſs infected.

At a little more than half a league to the ſouth of the town, there are hot baths, or rather a natural bagnio, formed by a ſpring of boiling water. Buildings conſtructed round this ſpring, formerly ſerved for lodging the patients, who came hither from all quarters; theſe buildings have undergone the fate common to every thing beautiful or uſeful, that exiſted in countries, whoſe ſoil has been for a long time covered with ruins and with all the hideous ſymptoms of deſtruction. There now remains only a little arched gallery, at the extremity of which a ſtone bench ſerved as

a ſeat to a ſingle perſon; one cannot ſit there without being preſently covered with ſweat, and experiencing a ſuffocating heat. The water which forms this bagnio, ſituated on a hill, runs under ground towards the ſhore, and it is found again under the ſand of the harbour; it there exhales a ſtrong ſmell of ſulphur, depoſits an ochre-coloured ſediment, and is ſeen to bubble up again at the bottom of the ſea, at the diſtance of ten or twelve feet from the beach.

At no great diſtance, and to the north of the baths, is met with a cavern, formed in a rock of a conſiſtence light and almoſt friable, at the extremity of which is a ſmall lake of hot water, but whoſe heat is ſufficiently moderate to admit of a perſon bathing; and in it there are no more than from two to four feet water. The walls of this cavern are covered with a thick coat of nitre, which is formed there naturally.

Theſe baths are ſalutary effects of the general conflagration of the inſide of the iſland; their uſe is very well calculated for the cure of diſeaſes of the ſkin, palſy, and rheumatic pains. The Greeks were acquainted with them in the time of HIPPOCRATES, who ſent thither patients, and ſome ſtill come there

there in our days to ſeek relief for their complaints. But theſe ſorts of favours of a frightful combuſtion cannot enter into compariſon with the crowd of diſorders, which, owing to it their origin, ſpread themſelves over a ſoil, from which they ſeem ſoon likely to drive away mankind; for their fatal influence ſeems to increaſe with time, and has reached diſtricts, which, not long ſince, were ſecure from it. 'Tis even only within a century that it has aſſumed this character of malignity which had not been felt by the ancients. In fact, their writings are filled with the encomiums which they beſtow on the Iſle of MELOS, on the abundance of its productions, and its incomparable fertility*; but they make no mention of the inſalubrity of the air that is there breathed.

It is one of the largeſt and moſt elevated iſlands of this ſouthern part of the ARCHIPELAGO: PLINY has ſaid that it was likewiſe the roundeſt of all†: it is about twelve leagues

* THEOPHRASTUS, in extolling the prodigious fecundity of the ſoil of MILO, adds, that vegetation is there ſo vigorous, that wheat, or any other grain which is ſown, ripens at the expiration of thirty days, which is too difficult to be believed.

† Hiſt. Nat. lib. iv. cap. xii.

in circumference. The ſulphur which was drawn from it was reckoned the beſt, and its alum was the moſt eſteemed after that of EGYPT. The ancients attributed to this MILO alum the property of preventing women from conception, and DIOSCORIDES does not heſitate to make this aſſertion *. Native ſulphur is ſtill very abundant there, and even makes its appearance on the ſurface of the ground; but it is no longer an article of trade any more than alum, although their extraction, from its great facility, occaſioned ſcarcely any expenſe. We cannot be aſtoniſhed at this neglect, when we reflect that ſeveral other branches of commerce, much more important, have been abandoned in countries of which they would ſtill conſtitute the wealth, durſt the inhabitants turn them to account.

Rock alum is commonly found at MILO, in natural excavations, where it is formed in abundance, and more beautiful and more pure than the ſalt of the ſame ſpecies, produced by our art. I entered into one of theſe ſpacious grottoes, heated by ſubterraneous fires, and ſituated on the declivity

* Hiſt. Nat. lib. v. cap. cxxiii.

is

of a ſteep mountain. The rock in which it is dug is entirely calcined; the inſide affords a great quantity of large pieces of alum, incruſtated on the ſides of the grotto, and which cannot thence be detached but by means of an iron inſtrument. This ſame ſalt alſo ſhews itſelf in efflorescence, and, in that ſtate, it preſents chryſtallizations in ſmall bunches of different configurations. Feather alum is alſo to be remarked there in plenty; it hangs from the roof in ſilky and brilliant threads. I obſerved that the ſtones of the entrance of this aluminous grotto had been burnt in ſuch a manner, that with the fingers alone it was eaſy to crumble them and reduce them to powder.

Ships ſtill come to load at MILO a great quantity of theſe ſolid lava, of which mill-ſtones are made, and which are conveyed into ſeveral countries of the LEVANT, and particularly to EGYPT and CONSTANTINOPLE. Theſe mill-ſtone quarries were known and worked by the ancients, and as a mill-ſtone was called in Greek *mylias*, ſome of the learned have imagined that they found in this word the etymology of the name of MELOS, which was given to the iſland.

At the head of the harbour have been made baſins, which are filled with ſea-water; in theſe, evaporation leaves during the hot weather nothing but the ſalt, which there becomes chryſtallized. Theſe natural ſalterns have been very productive; they are at this day in a ſtate of decay, which renders them of little profit.

The iſland likewiſe contains many mines of iron and ferruginous pyrites, but no advantage is derived from them. By the ſea-ſide, to the left of the harbour, there is a black and ferruginous ſand. Here too were found ſardonyxes, of which no more mention is made at preſent, becauſe, under a formidable tyranny, a perſon who ſpeaks of his riches, gives himſelf up to perſecution, and not unfrequently to certain deſtruction. OLIVIER and BRUGUIERES there diſcovered pozzolana, as well as at the Iſlands of ARGENTIERA and SANTORIN; it is certain that other valuable or uſeful ſubſtances would preſent themſelves to the labours of induſtrious men, releaſed from the ſhackles with which the preſent inhabitants are loaded. Under a liberal adminiſtration, the Iſland of MILO might even ceaſe to be an unhealthful abode; a few precautions, a few works not

very conſiderable, would probably be ſufficient for the amelioration which Humanity claims in vain, from perſons who are regardleſs of her voice; accordingly we muſt neither expect it from the government of the Turks, nor from the unfortunate people who are become their ſlaves, rather than their ſubjects.

Several ſubterraneous galleries are met with at ſome diſtance from the harbour; they are dug in the rock to a rather conſiderable depth. The deſcent into ſome of theſe galleries is by a winding flight of ſteps. To enter them is at preſent a very laborious taſk; you are obliged to crawl on your hands and knees through heaps of ſtones. Along the ſtaircaſe are remarked ſmall receſſes made in the ſtone, intended, no doubt, for receiving lamps for lighting theſe dark and gloomy places; for there is every appearance that they were conſecrated to the ſepulture of the Miliots. There are ſtill ſeen other catacombs facing the latter, but not ſo large nor ſo deep. On entering them, after having walked for a few moments on an inclined plane, you meet with ſome wide ſteps, by which you aſcend into a ſpacious hall; at the farther end is a ſort of bench, cut in the rock, and round it ſeveral ſmall rooms. The entrance of this latter

cave

caverns in a maſs of ſtones entirely calcined; they are light and ſpongy, like almoſt all thoſe of the iſland, and eſpecially like thoſe of the ſurrounding rocks, expoſed to the action of a long and immenſe fire which all the efforts of man could not extinguiſh. They preſent on a ſmoking iſland, whoſe ſoil reſts on vaſt burning furnaces, the image of combuſtion, and the ſymptoms of ſome conſiderable convulſion, and perhaps of total deſtruction.

CHAPTER

CHAPTER XXXIII.

Harbour of Milo.—*Cove of* Patricha.—*Engagement between the* Mignonne *frigate and two Engliſh cutters.*—*Harbour of* Milo.—Sifour.—*Ruins.*—Anti-Milo.—*Purgative water.*—*Aluminous water.*—*Earthquakes.*—*Cold.*—*Storm.*—*Remedies for the bite of ſerpents.*—Pſylli.—*Serpents.*

THE Iſland of MILO is divided in its middle, and almoſt throughout its whole breadth, by a deep bay, which, according to the remark of ſome of the ancients, more juſt than that of PLINY, gives it the form of a bow. This is one of the fineſt harbours in the MEDITERRANEAN, ſpacious enough to contain a fleet, and to keep the ſhips belonging to it ſheltered from all winds. The anchorage there is excellent; the moſt common is at the very head of the gulf, abreaſt of the catacombs, and nearer to the eaſt coaſt: anchors eaſily fix themſelves in a fine ſand; and veſſels come to there in from twelve to eighteen

eighteen fathoms water. Small craft can approach nearer the coaſt, and carry out moorings to the rocks of one of the grottoes.

Another anchorage, more convenient, and alſo more ſtill, is on the weſt coaſt, in a cove called *Patricha*. Ships, almoſt entirely landlocked, do not there feel the action of the winds, nor that of the ſea, from the northweſt, which rolls in ſometimes with a degree of violence on the beach at the head of the harbour, but cannot enter this receſs, defended by an advanced point, on which riſes a ſmall rocky mountain. There it was that, in 1780, the *Mignonne* frigate, commanded by D'Entrecasteaux, and eſcorting a convoy of upwards of ſixty ſail, ſuſtained an engement againſt two Engliſh cutters, which came thither to at tack her.

The convoy had met with theſe two cutters in the canal of Malta; they followed it, and, during the night, threw it into confuſion. The frigate not being able to check them both at once, when ſhe made ſail after the one, the other threatened the merchantveſſels in another quarter; the great guns even becoming uſeleſs, they would have hurt none but our own ſhips; and it was conſidered as a proof of the activity, and, at the ſame time,

of

of the ſkilfulneſs of the manœuvres of the MIGNONNE, that ſix ſhips only had fallen into the hands of the enemy; but he did not long preſerve them. The convoy, having entered the ARCHIPELAGO, ſeemed to run under full ſail towards SMYRNA: the Engliſh cutters, which outſailed it, were ahead, and expected to make freſh attacks during the night. Their prizes were following them. Already this fleet of hoſtile veſſels, which ſeemed to ſail in company, had paſſed beyond the mouth of the harbour of MILO, when the *MIGNONNE*, after having commanded by ſignals different evolutions, ordered her convoy to make the beſt of its way into port; and by this manœuvre ſhe was placed between the cutters and the convoy, and very near to the captured veſſels. The latter, which for the moſt part were not manned by the enemy, haſtened to approach the frigate; and the largeſt, on board of which the Engliſh had put an officer and thirteen men, was retaken, without the enemy, who was too far diſtant, being able to afford her aſſiſtance. The convoy anchored in the cove of PATRICHA: the next morning, thinking ourſelves in ſafety in a harbour belonging to a neutral nation, we were preparing to take a walk

walk on ſhore; already had ſome officers ſet out, early in the morning, on a ſhooting party, when we perceived in the offing the two cutters ſtanding in for the bay. They entered it, in fact; but though we could not imagine that it was for the purpoſe of attacking us, we took the precautions which prudence required: the frigate clapped a ſpring on her cable, and in this poſition ſhe covered the whole of the merchant-ſhips lying in the cove. Each of the enemy's veſſels was ſtronger than the *Mignonne*, not perhaps in point of men, whoſe number became uſeleſs to us on this occaſion; neither were they ſo from the number of guns, but from the calibre of the pieces, which, on board the French frigate, were only eight-pounders, whereas the cutters had twelve-pounders mounted. We had every reaſon to think that theſe veſſels would caſt anchor in the head of the gulf; but they had no ſuch intention: they kept under ſail, abreaſt of the frigate, making boards, and putting about, the one after the other, under her ſtern, cloſe enough to touch the enſign that was there flying. Theſe reiterated inſults were to be conſidered as inſolent provocations, and as a real attack on the part of audacious people, regardleſs of the rights of

of nations. It was impoſſible to tolerate longer ſuch outrages to the honour of the flag: we fired; and what proved to us that the enemy had had no other intention than of forcing us to commence hoſtilities, as if they conſiſted only in gun-ſhots, was, that at the very inſtant of our firſt broadſide, ſhe returned it with incredible promptitude and briſkneſs. The action began with conſiderable obſtinacy: we had to ſuſtain ſucceſſively the fire of four tiers of guns, and we had but one to oppoſe to them, ſince the other was turned towards the ſhore; and, indeed, two guns of the acting broadſide were for the moſt part in a ſtate of inaction, becauſe they were maſked by a tongue of land. But our artillery was better ſerved; it had alſo the advantage of firing from a fixed point, while the ſhot of the enemy's veſſels, always under ſail, became more uncertain. In ſhort, after four hours' action, the cutters, very roughly handled, ſheered off, and left the harbour, to re-appear there no more. We learnt afterwards, that they had loſt a great many men, and that, ready to ſink, they had been forced to undergo a repair.

I muſt not omit a trait which may give an idea of the want of delicacy, I had almoſt ſaid

of the ferocity, of the officers who commanded theſe cutters. Our midſhipmen, who were on a ſhooting excurſion, haſtened, at the report of the firſt gun, to approach the beach: we could not ſend the boat for them during the action, and they ſeated themſelves on the rocks in the middle of the coaſt, ſimple ſpectators of the engagement. Impelled by the mortification of ſeeing the miſcarriage of their enterpriſe, no leſs raſh than contrary to the laws of war, the enemy had the meanneſs to direct againſt theſe youths, whom he knew by their uniform, ſeveral broadſides, which covered them with ſplinters of rock.

After ſo manifeſt an outrage againſt the laws of nations and humanity, we were to expect freſh enterpriſes on the part of the Engliſh. D'ENTRECASTEAUX commiſſioned me to erect a battery on the top of the hill, at the foot of which the frigate was at anchor: we diſmounted the guns from the ſide of the ſhip that faced the land; and they were dragged over a ſteep ſurface, thickly ſtrewn with rocks, with that tranſport of courage which diſtinguiſhes French warriors, and preſently the rock was tranſformed into a fortlet capable of reſiſting ſhips of war.

Theſe

Theſe precautions removed not the apprehenſions of D'ENTRECASTEAUX; he dreaded an aſſemblage of ſuperior force, and even the treachery of the Greeks: during the night, he cauſed the guns to be haſtily re-embarked, and the flotilla to make a retrograde movement, by conducting it under the cannon of the fort of SUDA, in the Iſland of CANDIA. I had joined the *MIGNONNE* in the cove of PATRICHA; and, ſince her departure, I followed her deſtination, and no longer quitted her. But I return to the Iſle of MILO.

The entrance of the harbour faces the north-weſt. It is very wide, and ſhips may, without riſk, approach very near to the coaſts by which it is formed. They have on the ſtarboard hand, or to the right, Cape *VANI*; and to the left, Cape *LAKIDA*: the gulf then contracts between Cape *SAN DIMITRI* and Cape *BOMBARDA*. On the latter, a high mountain, formed like a ſugar-loaf, bears at its ſummit a village, to which has been given the name of *SIFOUR*; it is ſurrounded by walls, which have obtained it the epithet of caſtle, in Greek *caſtro*, although, with the exception of this ſimple and feeble encloſure, it affords nothing that reſembles a fortreſs. It is at *SIFOUR* that the pilots for the ARCHI-

PELAGO reſide. The air there is pure and wholeſome; the peſtilential vapours of the plain do not reach it with deſtructive influence: accordingly this place is more populous than the capital of MILO; and the inhabitants exhibit, throughout their whole exterior, the ſigns of vigour and health, in which their unfortunate countrymen are deficient.

From the top of this narrow mountainous point, on which is built the ſteep village of SIFOUR, the view embraces a vaſt extent: on the one ſide it diſcovers the mountains of ATTICA, the fields of ARGOS, and the lands of ancient LACONIA; to the ſouth, the celebrated mountains of CRETE; and, on the other quarters of the horizon, the numerous Iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO, which ſeem to float on the waters. There is every appearance that, formerly, the principal place of the Iſle of MILO was towards the ſite of SIFOUR, ſince all the ancient habitations of the ARCHIPELAGO are built on eminences the moſt lofty, and whoſe acceſs is the moſt rugged. Quarrels inceſſantly reviving between one tribe and another, induced the neceſſity of being continually prepared againſt an enemy whoſe principal tactics, according to

to the genius of the whole nation, conſiſted in cunning and ſurpriſe, and his approach was eaſily diſcovered from the top of mountains which no other commands. Theſe points of rocks, towering towards the ſky, were from their ſituation eaſy to defend, and extremely well calculated to ſtop the enemy and repel his attacks. Beſides, in a country where all religious opinions referred to theogony, the men, placed far above the level of the ground, fancied themſelves nearer to the gods, and thought that they were more ſurely heard by them. It is only when diſſenſions left a few intervals, of which the arts and commerce were able to get poſſeſſion, that nations approached the plains and the low coaſts, where they could give themſelves up, with greater comfort and ſucceſs, to trade, and every kind of induſtry. And what proves that the poſition of SIFOUR was alike inhabited by the ancients, is, that we ſee there conſiderable ruins, pieces of wall thrown down, fragments of columns of PARIAN marble, and ſubterraneous galleries; antique catacombs, where ſlight, but ſecret digging, daily brings to light funeral inſcriptions, vaſes, idols, medals, &c. Every thing announces the remains of a conſiderable city. On a broad

fragment of frize is ſtill to be read, in large characters, in very good preſervation,

ΣΑΒΕΙΝΟΣΟΠΥ

that is, *Sabinus*, ſon of *Py*..... The remainder is wanting.

A deſert iſlet, very elevated above the ſurface of the waters, appears oppoſite the entrance of the harbour; it is a fragment of numerous ruins of an ancient land, ſhattered on all ſides: the Greeks call it *Remomilo*; and our navigators, *Anti-Milo*, or *Anti-Mile*.

Near Sifour, a ſpring, of a water almoſt lukewarm, and of a flat and nauſeous taſte, iſſues from an eminence towards the ſea-ſhore. It is from this natural pharmacy that the Greeks fetch their purgative potions, and a few glaſſes of this water produce the effect of a medicine. This is the country for hot waters, impregnated with foreign ſubſtances: there are very few good to drink; and this ſcarcity of pure and wholeſome water undoubtedly contributes to the diſorders with which the inhabitants are overwhelmed, with the exception of thoſe of Sifour, who have an opportunity of drinking limpid water.

On

On the ſide oppoſite to SIFOUR, that is, on the weſt part of the iſland, is found a ſpring of water, ſo loaded with alum, that it depoſits that mineral on the ſurface of the ground which it bathes.

The inflamed vapours of the bowels of the earth are exhaled by ſo great a quantity of vent-holes, they remain ſo little concentered in caverns, where fires are inceſſantly burning, that the ſoil of the Iſle of MILO is not, as might be imagined, frequently ſhaken by ſubterraneous commotions. During the years 1779 and 1780, there were felt in the Iſle of MILO, and in that of ARGENTIERA, which has always ſhared the political fate of the former, as it ſhares the effects of a vaſt conflagration of Nature; there were felt, I ſay, only two ſlight ſhocks of an earthquake: the former, during the night from the 6th to the 7th of January, in calm weather, but at the expiration of forty days of an impetuous northerly wind; the latter, on the 6th of December, during a hurricane from the ſouth-weſt, which, at the very inſtant of the ſhock, veered round to the northward, blowing with equal fury. But what is remarkable, is, that both theſe commotions were much more perceptible in the Iſland of CANDIA, where ſome

houſes were overthrown, edifices damaged, and men flung on the ground. Communications, formed at immenſe depths, ſpread afar the fire with which the bowels of the globe are conſumed, eſtabliſh a ſeries of galleries extending in every direction, and threatening, perhaps, the ſurface of the earth with new convulſions, and mankind with freſh deſtruction.

This ſame year of 1779 was alſo remarkable, in the ARCHIPELAGO, for the duration and violence of the north wind, and from the cold, extraordinary for theſe parts, which was there experienced. The mountains of the neighbouring continents were covered with a great quantity of ſnow; and it froze rather hard in the Iſlands of MILO and ARGENTIERA, where I then was. The ice, in ſome places, was upwards of an inch in thickneſs, and might be reckoned a prodigy, in a country where it may almoſt be ſaid that it never freezes. The oldeſt inhabitants did not remember to have ſeen ſo hard a froſt. There was one in the winter of 1768-69; but it was extremely ſlight, in compariſon to that of 1779. And, indeed, the ſurpriſe of the Greeks, aſtoniſhed at the ſight of the various forms of the iſicles ſuſpended to the houſes

houſes and the trees, was truly pleaſant: they broke off the fragments which appeared to them moſt curious, carried them along the ſtreets on diſhes, uttering cries of admiration; in ſhort, they all ſhewed, in an unequivocal manner, that they beheld ice for the firſt time. It did not laſt long; and, in twenty-four hours, a mild ſun diſſipated theſe gloomy but tranſient ſymptoms of a ſevere winter, and began again to warm the earth, aſtoniſhed at the cold to which it was a ſtranger.

Impetuous winds, hurricanes, and extraordinary meteors, likewiſe diſtinguiſhed, in the LEVANT, the year 1779. This derangement of the atmoſphere was, doubtleſs, owing to diſtant cauſes, with which I was not acquainted, ſuch as violent commotions, or great convulſions in ſome parts of the globe. The ſea participated in this ſtate of derangement of the air and temperature: ſhipwrecks covered with their remains the waves, raiſed by the ſtrength of the winds. At the beginning of a winter ſo rough, and preſenting ſeveral phenomena, I was witneſs of the moſt violent ſtorm that I ever beheld in my life: it took place at two o'clock in the afternoon, during my ſtay at ARGENTIERA. The wind

wind blew firſt from the ſouth-weſt with great force; the ſky was overcaſt, and the rain had been almoſt continual: the clouds had become leſs thick from ten o'clock in the morning; but the arc of the horizon to the ſouth-weſt was blackened, in a frightful manner, with clouds heaped up, precurſors of the ſtorm. The wind preſently ſhifted to that quarter; an almoſt total darkneſs was ſpread over the atmoſphere, and mountains of clouds, of a greeniſh tint, advanced with rapidity; long ſtreams of fire divided them in every direction, and the thunder never ceaſed to roar, but in a hollow manner, and without claps. A water-ſpout, whoſe form was that of a cylinder widened at both ends, joined the ſea to the clouds; the waters boiled up at its baſe, which I eſtimated at a quarter of a league in circumference, and it moved with extreme ſwiftneſs. When arrived over the iſlands, the ſtorm became terrible: the impetuoſity of the wind ſhattered ſeveral windmills; thunder roared on all ſides; a frightful ſhower of hail, the ſtones of which were of the ſize of a common walnut, fell with a dreadful force: Nature appeared on the point of being ſwallowed up in an abyſs, and conſternation reigned in every mind. A deluge of

of rain ſucceeded this ſcene of terror; and the wind, which flew to the north, drove the remains of the tempeſt towards other ſhores.

During the ſhort time that I paſſed at SIFOUR, I ſaw a child that had, three or four hours before, been bitten by a viper, or a venemous ſnake, in the ſmall of the leg: it was brought to me, under the idea that I might afford it ſome aſſiſtance. The leg and foot were much ſwelled, very hard, and of a bluiſh colour: the child ſuffered great pain; the wound no longer appeared, and the place was not to be diſtinguiſhed but by a larger ſwelling, and by pains more acute, which were occaſioned by touching it. I had experienced on ſeveral occaſions, and particularly at GUIANA, where ſnakes are equally numerous and formidable, the efficacy of *eau de Luce* as a preſervative againſt their venom. I made the child ſwallow a few drops of it, in half a glaſs of wine; and, after ſome ſcarifications on the part bitten, I applied to it a compreſs, ſteeped in this ſame water, which is known to be compoſed of volatile alkali and oil of amber. Four hours after, the ſwelling was conſiderably diminiſhed; the child no longer felt any pain, and was in the moſt tranquil ſtate. I renewed the com-

preſs of *eau de Luce*, and diſmiſſed the little patient, at the ſame time recommending that he might not be diſturbed, and, above all, that no ſort of remedy might be adminiſtered to him.

But theſe recommendations were vain: ſcarcely had the child left the houſe that I inhabited, before ſome old women, exerciſing empiriciſm excluſively, perſuaded the father of the little patient that the remedies of the *Franks* were good for nothing, and even might be pernicious to Orientals. It is to be remarked, that this is preciſely the language of the fanatic and haughty Mahometan, who, at once proud and ignorant, alike diſdains men and things that are foreign to his religion and his cuſtoms; but it is not aſtoniſhing that the ſlave ſhould hold the ſame language as the tyrant.

The advice of the old female empirics was attended to: the child was aſleep; it was awakened; the compreſs of *eau de Luce* was taken off. The wound was laid open with a razor, and two ligatures were made, the one on the calf of the leg, and the other on the middle of the thigh, with two ſmall cords drawn ſo tight, that the unfortunate child, who was thus left to paſs the night, had the next

next morning ſo extraordinary a ſwelling on the thigh and leg, that the ligatures were over-hung and covered by the fleſh, which was hard, inflamed, and ſo exceſſively painful, that a fly, which alighted on the leg, cauſed the patient to vent loud cries. A burning fever, attended with delirium, tormented him; and his ſtate of danger had decided the parents to bring him to me again, contrary to the advice of the cruel female phyſicians. My firſt care was to cut the cords, whoſe effect made me tremble; but when, on examining the wound, I found that the fleſh had been cut with ſo little precaution that the muſcle was injured; that, moreover, there had been applied to the wound a cataplaſm, which had brought on ſuppuration; and that, regard being had to the exceſſive ſtate of inflammation of the leg and thigh, and to the great heat of the atmoſphere, this ſuppuration might be attended by the moſt ſerious conſequences, I diſmiſſed the patient, and would have no more to do with him.

Notwithſtanding the unfavourable reſult of this accident, it is certain that the ligatures, flaſhes rather than ſcarifications, and ſuppurative plaſters occaſioned all the miſchief, ſince the ſwelling was conſiderably diminiſhed, and the

the pain entirely removed, by the uſe of *eau de Luce* applied as a topic, and taken internally; and this is an effect which it fails not to produce, when it is opportunely reſorted to in ſimilar circumſtances.

The remedies which the Greeks commonly employ for curing the bite of ſnakes, conſiſt in cataplaſms of emollient plants, calculated to promote ſuppuration. Sow-thiſtle is reckoned among them to poſſeſs particularly a ſpecific virtue againſt this ſort of venom. But this treatment is very long; it frequently laſts two months, and never leſs than one; neither is it always ſucceſsful, and death pretty frequently carries off the patient from the torments which this mode of treatment cauſes him to ſuffer.

The East was at all times the country of magicians: men, boaſting to have the power of charming ſerpents, of braving their bite and their venom, of rendering them docile to their voice, formerly exiſted these under the name of Pſylli; and there are ſtill to be found people who pretend to have inherited their ſecrets. I knew one of thoſe verſed in this kind of faſcination; he was certainly the moſt ignorant and moſt fooliſh of the Greeks: his ſecret principally conſiſted in

in thirteen words, which it was neceſſary to pronounce in ſight of the ſerpents. He told me alſo, that, in order to guard againſt the bite of theſe reptiles, it was neceſſary to try to take one alive, with the precaution of ſeizing it ſtrongly by the neck, ſo as to prevent it from biting, and not to concern myſelf about its body and tail, the twiſtings of which lightly ſqueeze the arm. You muſt then ſlip round its neck a running knot, made with coarſe thread, and draw it tight by degrees, till the animal is ſtrangled. When it is on the point of dying, you open it, and take out its fat, with which you rub your hands: then my modern pſyllus ſaid to me, "You have nothing more to "fear from the bite of every ſpecies of ſer "pent."

Though I have been aſſured, and have every reaſon to believe, that ſerpents are common in the Iſlands of GREECE, I never met with any, ſo that I cannot ſay what are the ſpecies that are there to be found: there are, as I was told, ſome very large, and upwards of ſeven feet long. Theſe reptiles, ſeveral of which diſtill from their canine teeth a very ſubtle venom, retire into holes, under ſtones and ruins, during the winter: they

they reappear in the ſpring, and even introduce themſelves into the houſes. At this period, the inhabitants look for the ſkin which they have caſt; and, by wearing it on their hat, they imagine themſelves ſecure from their bite. It is alſo aſſerted, that, to drive them away from the houſes, it is ſufficient to burn there hartſhorn, the ſmell of which, it is ſaid, is to them inſupportable.

CHAPTER

CHAPTER XXXIV.

Iſland of Policandro.—*Iſle of* Sikino.—Panagia *of* Cardioliſſa.—*Iſland of* Siphanto.—*Its mines; its productions; its inhabitants.*—*Goat.*—Strongylo *and* Deſpotico.—Antiparos.—*Grotto of* Antiparos.—*Iſland of* Paros.—*Its harbours.*—*Road of* Nauſſa.—*Eſtabliſhment of the Ruſſians in that road.*

IF, from the Iſle of MILO, you ſail to the eaſtward, inclining a little towards the ſouth, you ſoon meet with the Iſland of *POLICANDRO*, which is diſtant from it only ſeven or eight leagues. It formerly bore the name of *PHOLEGANDROS*, and to this the poet ARATUS added the epithet *ferrea*, in order to give, in a ſingle word, the idea of its ſoil, rugged, ſtony, and, as it were, compoſed of iron. The coaſt affords no harbour to ſhips which approach it; its population is by no means numerous, and confined in a village encloſed by walls, and near which riſes very high a rock of a frightful aſpect.

The vine, which grows there between the ſtones, yields good wine; but agriculture finds few ſpaces which are ſuitable to it. In a few diſtricts corn and cotton are cultivated, and with this latter commodity tolerably fine cloths are manufactured. Game delights in this rugged ſoil, and birds of paſſage make it their principal rendezvous in their regular migrations.

Further on is *Sikino*, an iſland nearly of the ſame ſize as Policandro but of a ſoil leſs rugged and more fertile. The ancients called it *Zikenos* and *Sycinus*, from Sykinus, ſon of a nymph and of Thoas king of Lemnos. It was alſo called *Œnoë*, the wine iſland, on account of the fertility of its vineyards, and the excellence of its grapes. There is no harbour; the boats of the country ſtop at the lower part of the town, on a very narrow ſandy beach, on which their crews are obliged to draw them on ſhore between two enormous maſſes of rocks, perpendicular, and, as it were, ſuſpended above the waters of the ſea. The town or village, encloſed by walls like almoſt all thoſe of the ſame countries, is built on one of theſe enormous rocks, and the population, notwithſtanding the goodneſs of the ſoil of the iſland, is

there

there ſcarcely more conſiderable than at POLICANDRO, becauſe the ſame cauſes or the ſame vices of adminiſtration prevail in this place, as well as in the other iſlands.

Between SIKINO and POLICANDRO is a ſhoal, the remains of the lands by which they were united. A chapel dedicated to the Virgin, whither the Greeks bring their offerings on the great feſtivals of the year, is built on an iſlet which is inhabited only at the periods of theſe religious aſſemblies; it is called *PANAGIA*, or Our Lady of *CARDIOTISSA*.

The Iſland of SIPHANTO lies to the north of ARGENTIERA, and very cloſe to it. In former times it was flouriſhing, under the name of *SIPHNOS*; it was even reckoned the richeſt of the ARCHIPELAGO, on account of the gold and ſilver mines which had there been diſcovered, and the tenth alone of which furniſhed the temple of APOLLO at DELPHOS with the richeſt treaſure that had been ſeen. Theſe mines diſhonour the Siphuians, at the ſame time that they enrich them; and as if a too great opulence could not exiſt without corruption of morals and duplicity of character, theſe vices of depravity were ſo common at SIPHNOS, that they ſerved throughout

all GREECE as a term of compariſon, when it was required to paint diſcredited morals, or perfidy of conduct.

At this day the treaſures which the earth conceals in its boſom, remain unknown; they wait for wiſe and enlightened hands to be diſcovered anew, and again become a ſource of riches to an iſland which figures at preſent, but with leſs nakedneſs than many others, in the picture of miſery common to all thoſe countries.

The mines of gold and ſilver are not the only ones of SIPHANTO; there are ſome very abundant in lead, iron, and loadſtone. Its mountains alſo contain quarries of very beautiful marble, and the ancients ſpeak of a ſpecies of very ſoft ſtone, with which they made vaſes which were conveyed throughout all GREECE, and which are no longer known in our days; ſo that the Iſland of SIPHANTO would ſtill be the richeſt of the ARCHIPELAGO, if it ceaſed to be ſubject to a government which cruſhes it with an iron hand. It is alſo one of the moſt agreeable and moſt cheerful; the air there is very pure and wholeſome; the plains are adorned with the variety of dreſs which it owes to eaſy labours, and the excellent quality of their productions

is

is another precious favour of Nature. Silk, cotton, figs, oil, wax, and a few other commodities of leſs importance, there compoſe the crops and the trade; and it is eaſy to judge how much they might be increaſed, either by other kinds of culture, or by a greater abundance in the produce. The preſent induſtry is ſufficient to ſhew what it would become in circumſtances more propitious. Fine cotton-cloths, ſtraw-hats, &c. are there manufactured.

The inhabitants of SIPHANTO are mild and hoſpitable; the women are beautiful; but their dreſs, which too much reſembles that of their female neighbours of ARGENTIERA and MILO, robs them of many of their charms.

This iſland has no harbours, except for ſmall veſſels; the moſt conſiderable place, which is called *SERAI*, is built on ſteep rocks, which leave below the town only a very ſmall cove where boats caſt anchor, becauſe if they were ſurpriſed there by a northerly wind, they would ſoon be daſhed to pieces on the coaſt: thoſe of the country are haſtily drawn on ſhore as ſoon as they are unloaded.

At SIPHANTO there was a Greek phyſician, whoſe knowledge conſiſted in a collection of

recipes which he applied on every occaſion. His countrymen had no great confidence in him; and, indeed, he ſpent moſt of his time in viſiting the neighbouring iſlands, and there ſeeking patients more credulous: he was, however, an unexceptionable man, very obliging, and a great friend to the French. I ſaw at his reſidence a goat of the beautiful race which is bred at SANTORIN; it lived familiarly in his houſe, went every where without doing the ſmalleſt damage, and was equally well ſatisfied with bread, meat, ſalt fiſh, &c. &c. but it was extremely delicate in point of cleanlineſs; if in eating it dropped any bit, it did not pick it up; and if one preſented it what it liked beſt at the ſame time holding it in one's mouth, it refuſed to touch its favourite food. Theſe little facts of which I was witneſs, and which are a proof of the inſtinct of cleanlineſs natural to goats, and of that which they require in a ſtate of domeſticity, are not altogether unintereſting to natural hiſtory, and even to rural economy, becauſe they ſerve to direct it in the manner of rearing animals, the moſt conformable to their habits, and conſequently the moſt profitable. However, this goat belonging to the phyſician of SIPHANTO was extremely pro-

ductive as well from the quantity of its milk, as from the number of its kids.

On the ſame direction as SIPHANTO, from weſt to eaſt are ranged the Iſlands of *ANTIPAROS*, *PAROS*, and *NAXIA*, all three celebrated, and ſtill very remarkable. I do not ſpeak of thoſe two iſlets in front of the former of theſe iſlands, and detached from them, and the ſmalleſt of which, as well as the moſt advanced towards the weſt, bears the name of *STRONGYLO*, and the other that of *DESPOTICO*. They are both uninhabited; yet they are not uſeleſs, owing to the good anchorage which they afford to the largeſt ſhips, in the midſt of the channel that ſeparates them from the Iſland of ANTIPAROS.

This latter iſland, which is narrow and long, in a direction from north-eaſt to ſouth-eaſt, is the ancient *OLYAROS*, a colony of Sidonians. Its ſoil, which might be better cultivated, is tolerably fertile; it is not even without agreeableneſs; but the tint of wretchedneſs, which there prevails, conceals theſe gifts of Nature, and no longer ſuffers any thing to be perceived but accumulated ills, which the breath of an adminiſtration, friendly to human nature, would ſoon cauſe to diſappear.

But what renders ANTIPAROS one of the moſt famous iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO and even in the world, is the grotto which penetrates into its boſom to a great depth, and which, according to what is related of it by the Greeks, communicates beneath the waters with ſome neighbouring iſlands; an abyſs whoſe windings have not yet been diſcovered and viſited, and which offers a field to obſervation no leſs extenſive than curious. TOURNEFORT; has deſcribed, with much exactneſs, the grotto of ANTIPAROS. M. DE CHOISEUL-GOUFFIER has given ſome very beautiful drawings of it in his *Voyage Pittoreſque de la Grèce*; and as I could only repeat what has been ſaid of it by thoſe two illuſtrious travellers, I prefer referring the reader to their works than to copying them.

The Iſland of PAROS is ſeparated only by a narrow channel from the more inconſiderable one of ANTIPAROS, of which I have juſt ſpoken. Like all the other iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO, PAROS has borne ſeveral names in antiquity: it was called *MINOA*, becauſe it was conquered by MINOS, the renowned king of CRETE: before, it was called *PACTIA*, and it has ſince changed its name repeatedly, till it took and at laſt retained that

that of *Paros*, from the name of the ſon of Jason, or of a certain Arcadian, ſon of Parrhasius *.

Though of little extent, the Iſland of Paros formerly prided itſelf on its power and riches. For theſe it was indebted to the activity of its commerce and the culture of the arts; excellent harbours favoured navigation and trade, as quarries of one of the moſt beautiful marbles in the world had there inſpired the taſte of the arts. This marble, of a dazzling whiteneſs, was almoſt reckoned a precious ſtone in the eyes of the ancients; gold was frequently deſtined to accompany it, and the gods had no temples, nor ſtatues of a ſubſtance more eſteemed. In the ſame place where Nature placed the ſubſtance the moſt in requeſt for the chiſel of the ſculptor, ſhe alſo gave birth to the two moſt celebrated artiſts of antiquity, and who may be conſidered as the geniuſes to whom ſculpture owed its luſtre. Phidias and Praxitiles were born at Paros. Their maſter-pieces, the ornament of Greece, are at preſent loſt, mutilated, or buried under rubbiſh, and their deſcendants, whom miſery and ſlavery have

* Plin. Hiſt. Nat. lib. iv. cap. xii.

degraded,

degraded, are no longer acquainted with an art which conſtituted the glory of their country.

The very quarries of this beautiful marble are abandoned and partly filled up. One can no longer deſcend but with the greateſt difficulty into ſome of their galleries. If they were diſencumbered of the ſtones heaped up and the earth fallen in, which obſtruct them, one might reach the cavities whence iſſued blocks which took admirable forms under the chiſel of the ancients, and whence, in all probability, will again iſſue thoſe with which modern artiſts will repreſent heroes very much above the gods of antiquity.

A ſmall town called *Parechia* has replaced the ancient city of Paros on the weſt coaſt of the iſland, facing Antiparos: it preſents no idea of it, unleſs by the beautiful ruins which are employed without reſerve as without taſte, in its conſtruction. Similar fragments of magnificent monuments load, in a uſeleſs manner, almoſt all the territory of the iſland; and, in theſe deſerted remains, art would ſtill diſcover objects worthy of its admiration. Off Parechia, the ſea forms a bight, and a harbour whoſe entrance is difficult, on account of the ſhoals by which

which it is obſtructed on the oppoſite coaſt; the harbour of *Marmara* has not the ſame inconveniences, but it is more open. Lower down on the ſame ſide, Port *Treo*, protected by three iſlets, affords to navigators a very convenient watering-place; and above Marmara, at the north-weſt point of the iſland, Port *Santa Maria* is alſo a good anchorage. The coaſts of Paros have alſo other anchorages, where ſhips may find temporary ſhelter againſt the violence of the winds; but the moſt excellent of harbours, which will always make Paros an iſland of great importance, is that of *Naussa* to the north-north-eaſt. Placed in the middle of the Archipelago, this harbour, not ſo large as that of Milo, is, nevertheleſs, more advantageous; fleets can lie there in ſafety, and none is more favourable for an eſtabliſhment. The Ruſſians had choſen it for the depot of their forces, and the centre of their operations; they had erected batteries to defend its entrance, conſtructed fortifications, and built magazines and other edifices, in order to make up for the few reſources which they would have found in the little village of Naussa. Though theſe works were made in our time, though in 1776,

M. DE

M. DE CHOISEUL-GOUFFIER again viſited them and found them ſtill entire, the empire of deſtruction has in ſuch a manner eſtabliſhed itſelf in theſe beautiful parts of the EAST, that they are at preſent quite raſed and demoliſhed, and that if it were wiſhed to make of the fine road of NAUSSA a naval and military eſtabliſhment, every thing there muſt be re-conſtructed.

However, this ſtay of the Ruſſians at PAROS has not produced there the effect that might thence be expected. Armed in appearance for the purpoſe of reſtoring to the Greeks their ancient liberty, they became their ſcourge; not that they had an intention of hurting a nation which it was their intereſt to ſpare, and to which they themſelves bear much reſemblance; but they appeared accompanied by the frightful train of war, and it is well known that, at its aſpect, every kind of liberty diſappears. Obliged, in foreign parts, to employ as auxiliaries undiſciplined men, Albanians, exerciſed to robbery and exceſſes, theſe very Ruſſians from whom the Greeks expected their emancipation, ſhewed themſelves rather as enemies than as deliverers: the inhabitants of PAROS, worn out by the moſt cruel

exactions, quitted their dwellings, and were reduced to regret Muſſulman deſpotiſm. Since that period, the iſland is almoſt deſerted, and this people, who were oppreſſed under the pretext of a falſe liberty, are at preſent on their guard againſt ſimilar attempts, and we could not, without infinite difficulty, ſucceed in making them liſten to promiſes more certain, and ſubſcribe to offers more real.

CHAPTER

CHAPTER XXXV.

Plan of a particular commerce to be eſtabliſhed in the Iſlands of the Levant. — *Deſcription of the Iſland of* Naxia. — *Account of the various articles of merchandiſe fit to be introduced into the trade of the* Archipelago.

AT the moment when peace, haſtened by victory, at length yielding to the wiſhes of mankind, is on the point of ſpreading its happy influence over countries long a prey to agitation and troubles; at the moment when its benefits, ſo impatiently expected, are going to reſtore life to commerce, and a peaceable courſe to the channels of general proſperity; the public mind, fatigued by the ſudden undulations of actions and reactions, and no longer having any uneaſineſs to conceive reſpecting the dangerous conſequences of the intrigues of a few ambitious men, who have by turns diſputed with each other the political ſcene; is going to be directed towards a laudable and uſeful object, and to be

be occupied with commercial undertakings and ſpeculations, which, being favourable to private intereſt, will turn at the ſame time to the wealth and ſplendour of the country.

A war cruelly prolonged, but entirely new in hiſtory, had inſulated FRANCE; all communication from without was prohibited, as well as all ſpeculation extinguiſhed. At preſent, the barrier is opened; the field of uſeful enterpriſe is enlarged and becoming immenſe, and every one will be able to take an active part in that ſort of common ſtock, where property will always be found by the ſide of active induſtry.

Among the efforts of commercial induſtry, thoſe whoſe motives and object ſhall be to revive our rich LEVANT trade, muſt be placed in the firſt rank: but, independently of the general means of reſtoring to this trade its ancient ſplendour, there are particular ones, improperly neglected before the revolution, and which are, nevertheleſs, of great moment: I mean, an eſtabliſhment fit for the Iſlands of the LEVANT. Whether theſe iſlands remain in the hands of the Turks, or whether, through a deſirable revolution, they paſs under a government more mild and liberal, they will equally afford great profits to thoſe who

ſhall

ſhall make them the object of their ſpeculations. And the local knowledge which I have acquired, has ſo fully convinced me of the importance, and at the ſame time of the facility of ſuch an undertaking, that I would not heſitate to contribute to it with all my means, among which, beſides a perfect notion of the places, I will venture to reckon the intelligence which creates reſources, the experience which ſuggeſts them, the activity which multiplies them, and laſtly, the probity which applies them to common advantage.

We are not here ſpeaking of an eſtabliſhment too diſtant, difficult, or dangerous, nor of a commerce which requires privileges for itſelf, or ſome excluſion for others. It is in the fortunate climate of GREECE, in countries ſo favoured by Nature, that the barbariſm of the people who have invaded them has not been able to efface their ſmiling aſpect, nor to cauſe all their charms to diſappear: it is in the middle of a civilized, mild, induſtrious nation, with which FRANCE has connexions free and quick; it is in the Iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO, in ſhort, that it is propoſed to eſtabliſh a traffic which requires no other prerogative, on the part of the government

vernment, than authority to form it; if, however, in a ſtate well-organized, where fraud alone ought to meet with obſtacles, ſuch an authority became neceſſary; nor any other protection than that to which every Frenchman is entitled, when he devotes himſelf to undertakings which muſt turn to the general advantage. It is not that, conſidering it in a point of view leſs contracted, the Government might not perceive a mean of reviving the French trade to the LEVANT, and of counter balancing that which the Engliſh, at this day our enemies, and always our rivals, carried on there with an advantage which has evidently increaſed within theſe few years. Under this aſpect, it would have well-founded claims to the encouragement which the State owes to enterpriſes that ſo nearly concern its riches and glory.

This traffic is alſo of a nature neither to cauſe umbrage nor jealouſy, ſince the traders of MARSEILLES, who, under the old order of things, had nearly the excluſive privilege of the trade of the LEVANT, would not even have been able to complain of competition. In fact, with the exception of the Iſlands of RHODES, STANCHO, and SCIO, in which there ſtill exiſted ſome trace of their ancient

commerce, denoted by a vice-consul, without merchants, they have abandoned all the other islands, even that of MITYLENE, where their ships took in cargoes of olive oil, and whence the Government also withdrew its agent, upwards of twenty years ago. I shall not examine the motives which determined the reform of establishments whose utility has long appeared incontestable. Under the reign of LOUIS XI[illegible] at the period when the commerce of [illegible] enjoyed its greatest splendour, [illegible] of the ARCHIPELAGO, of [illegible] France, [illegible] a French agent, who [illegible] national interests, and pointed [illegible] the articles from which they might derive any benefit in these same islands: but the consuls, vice-consuls, and agents, were themselves dealers; their views were profitable, because they did not go beyond the interest of trade and navigation. All, or almost all, have been withdrawn; and the consuls of the LEVANT are become diplomatic agents, and nearly useless in countries where diplomacy is a science absolutely unknown, and where people are quite ignorant of its forms. On this subject, the reader may consult a work entitled "*Remarques sur diverses*

"*Branches*,

"*Branches de Commerce et de Navigation,*" 8vo. printed in 1758. But it will not be unſeaſonable to indicate one of the cauſes which may have contributed to render theſe ſame eſtabliſhments leſs proſperous.

The moſt opulent traders, who, before the revolution, ſent their ſhips to our colonies, had no other manner of getting rid of their cargoes than of forming, in the places where they touched, ſtorehouſes, in which the coloniſt found daily, and in whatever quantity he pleaſed, the merchandiſe of EUROPE: he delivered, in exchange, the fruits of his culture. A little time was ſufficient for the ſale of the cargo arrived from FRANCE, and for completing that of the return. This method, which appears the moſt natural, ſeemed to be diſdained in the markets of the LEVANT. The houſes of MARSEILLES diſpatched thither various goods to their employers in the different ſeaports. The latter ſold them wholeſale to the dealers of the country, who, in their turn, alſo ſold to the French the articles which paſſed into FRANCE. Turkiſh, Greek, or Jew agents, arranged theſe reciprocal ſales. The employer neither looked for nor ſaw his dealers, and he had no concern but with his *conſul*: the agent, or broker, is thus called in

the LEVANT. The ſales and purchaſes were frequently delayed; a good part of the profits remained, both in the hands of the Levantine ſeller, and in thoſe of the agent. Thence ſmall cargoes, returns of little importance, ſlow expeditions, frequent demurrage, and moderate fortunes *. A few veſſels, come from MARSEILLES, and bound to SMYRNA, for example, appeared to ſail in ballaſt, although they were ſcarcely of ſixty or eighty tons burden. It is admitted, that this method does not materially affect the aggregate of trade, and that the quantity of goods imported and exported is ſtill nearly the ſame, although divided into an infinite number of channels. But the fortune of individuals is improved

* The employers attached a falſe pride to this ſort of routine. We ſaw at *** a French man, who had the good ſenſe and courage not to follow the ſtream, and who had imagined that it was as honourable to ſell a piece of cloth as to ſell a whole bale: we ſaw him, I ſay, experience incredible vexation on the part of his countrymen, and not be admitted into what they called the *corps de la nation*, a pompous title, which will appear extremely ridiculous, when it ſhall be known that this *corps de la nation* was compoſed of five or ſix factors. It is proper to obſerve, that this very dealer is become the head of the principal houſe of the ſeaport where he reſides; an incontrovertible proof of the ſucceſs attached to the operations which he had adopted.

more

more difficultly; they are, conſequently, not enabled, whatever activity may, in other reſpects, be attributed to them, to make effectual efforts or attempts of any importance; and it cannot be doubted that this ſort of partial languor may have ſome influence on general traffic. It is with the ſame turn of mind that the French trade was directed in the ARCHIPELAGO. Nature, in dividing, in parcelling off, as it were, the ſoil of theſe countries into a multitude of portions, ſeemed to indicate the line to be followed. What is only leſs lucrative in the great ſea-ports, became inſupportable and ruinous in an iſland, in which a cargo, even moderate, could not be ſold wholeſale; and this reaſon alone would have been more than ſufficient to induce the abandonment of ſimilar eſtabliſhments.

With other principles, we are juſtified in expecting profits by no means common, by trading in the ARCHIPELAGO, and on ſome of the neighbouring coaſts, where no factory exiſts. The only queſtion would be, to chooſe ſuch goods as are there of certain ſale, and among which ſome have been ſold as high as ſix hundred per cent. profit, not to loſe opportunities of procuring cheap articles in return, and to neglect nothing for ex-

tending there our ſpeculations. Our readers muſt be ſenſible that, without baniſhing ſales and purchaſes by wholeſale, when circumſtances ſhall be favourable, retail traffic would form the baſis of the undertaking, becauſe, in fact, it is, in this ſituation, not only more profitable, but alſo more admiſſible.

It would be ſuperfluous to enter into a minute detail of all the operations which are connected with the execution, or which ſpring from it; but it will be ſufficient to give ſome development to the principal diſpoſitions which are to direct the undertaking, and inſure its ſucceſs.

The choice of the iſland is one of the moſt important points. In order that every advantage might be found united, it would be neceſſary that this iſland, ſituated in the centre of the ARCHIPELAGO, ſhould join to a numerous population the comfort of its inhabitants; that its ports ſhould be alike frequented by European ſhips, and by the ſmall craft of the country; that, in ſhort, the ſtate and diſtribution of its territory ſhould afford facilities for forming an eſtabliſhment. No iſland, in particular, poſſeſſes at once all theſe elements of proſperity; but their intercourſe with each other renders them, in a manner

a manner, common to all. The large Iſland of Scio ſeems, at firſt ſight, to command the preference: a town well-built and flouriſhing, the urbanity of its inhabitants, manufactories of velvet and other ſilk ſtuffs, a harbour into which enters a crowd of veſſels, plains covered with villages and embelliſhed by their culture and fertility, the ſilk, wax, honey, maſtic, turpentine, wines, and fruits, which they produce—every thing appears to make the ſcale turn in favour of Scio. But this iſland is ſituated too far to the northward; its vicinity to Smyrna would render trade leſs advantageous: beſides, the poſition of its town, at no great diſtance from the principal cities of the Ottoman empire, the ſedition, inſurrections, and political commotions of which are felt, on a radius ſomewhat prolonged; its diſorderly garriſon of janizaries and marines; the Turks who reſide there, and paſs there, are ſo many circumſtances which ſometimes expoſe its tranquillity.

If we caſt our eyes on the ſouthern part of the Cyclades, we diſcover a vaſt road, the ordinary anchorage of ſhips which navigate in theſe ſeas: it is formed by the Iſlands of Milo, Argentiera, and Polivo, the *Burnt Island* of the Europeans. There it is that

intercourſe with FRANCE would be the moſt frequent; but the air of MILO is ſo unwholeſome, that it is dangerous to make there any ſtay. The temperature of ARGENTIERA is ſalubrious; but the only village ſtanding there is ſo circumſcribed, the houſes which compoſe it are ſo mean, that one would have ſome difficulty in finding a convenient lodging. POLIVO is uninhabited. On the other hand, theſe three iſlands are at too great a diſtance from the centre of the ARCHIPELAGO, which it is important to occupy.

It is, therefore, nearly in the middle of this group of iſlands that it is proper to ſtop, and every conſideration unites in favour of NAXIA, formerly NAXOS. It is the largeſt of the CYCLADES, and its fertility, ſtill more than its extent, has occaſioned it to be called the *QUEEN*. It was formerly a powerful republic. The ſame ſpirit of liberty which reigned among their anceſtors, has been propagated to the modern Greeks: enſlaved under the brazen yoke of Muſſulman deſpotiſm, they have found means to preſerve, at leaſt, the forms of a free ſtate. They are governed by magiſtrates choſen from among themſelves; no Turk there eſtabliſhes his domination, and this is not one of the ſmalleſt allurements

allurements of NAXIA. It is, in a word, the moſt agreeable, and at the ſame time the moſt tranquil iſland of the ARCHIPELAGO. Perſecutions are there more rare; and, what does not commonly happen either in other iſlands, every one there enjoys his fortune in tolerable tranquillity. The ancients, on account of the fecundity of its territory, compared it to SICILY; and, when they ſpoke of the delicious wine which it produced, they aſſimilated it to the nectar of the gods. Limpid waters traverſe it in every direction, and roll into its plains coolneſs and abundance. Thoſe trees which are to us delicate articles of expenſe and luxury, ſuch as the orange-tree, the lemon-tree, the pomegranate-tree, there grow without culture; their flowers perfume the pure air that is breathed, and their fruits acquire an exquiſite flavour. Olive-trees, mulberry-trees, fig-trees, planted here and there, add to the varied productions of the earth, diverſify the ſites, and embelliſh the landſcapes. Other trees of every ſize, whoſe verdure never fades, there form natural groves and agreeable ſhades. Vines, which ſtill yield an excellent wine, recall to mind that NAXIA was formerly conſecrated to BACCHUS. Conſiderable flocks of ſheep brouze on

on the odoriferous plants which clothe the declivity of the mountains; hares and red partridges, by procuring the amuſement of ſhooting, augment the reſources of the table; fiſh is in great plenty; and proviſions of every ſort are at a very low price. The Jeſuits, who knew ſo well how to chooſe their reſidence, had given the preference to this iſland of the ARCHIPELAGO: they there poſſeſſed a houſe in the town, and one more handſome in the country; and this circumſtance, in the eyes of whoever was acquainted with the turn of mind of thoſe ancient monks, who diſcerned, with ſo much ſagacity, the beſt points of the countries where they ſucceeded in extending their coloſſal order; this circumſtance, I ſay, would convey a good idea of NAXIA.

The principal inhabitants, the remains of thoſe ancient families of FRANCE, SPAIN, and ITALY, which had eſtabliſhed themſelves in different parts of GREECE, at the time of the conqueſts of the princes of the WEST, have there preſerved the urbanity and noble and generous manners of their origin; and one is aſtoniſhed to find again, in thoſe Greeks of recent date, affability and politeneſs, the fruits of a careful education. The

women, full of charms, are alſo full of amiable qualities. There was one whoſe beauty, famous at the period of my travels, would have been equally ſo in all times and in all places.

Although NAXIA has no ports fit for the reception of veſſels of a certain ſize, its coaſts, nevertheleſs, afford tolerably good places of ſhelter againſt contrary winds; and the ſmall craft of the ARCHIPELAGO are continually putting into ſeveral of its coves. On the other hand, the principal town, which alſo bears the name of *NAXIA*, and off which veſſels may caſt anchor in a roadſtead, is at a very ſmall diſtance from the much-frequented harbours of the eaſtern ſide of the Iſland of PAROS, and in particular of the capital road of *NAUSSA*, of which I have ſpoken in the preceding article. To the ſouth of NAXIA, another road which is called the *road of the Salterns*, or *Port STRONGIOLI*, may alſo receive ſhipping in the ſummer. In ſhort, the ſituation of the Iſland of NAXIA, its population, its fertility, and its charms, form an aſſemblage of inappreciable advantages which would with difficulty be met with elſewhere.

It would be an eaſy matter to procure there the neceſſary lodgings and places; and, whether

ther purchaſed or hired, they might be had equally cheap. A ſtorehouſe would contain the articles, the ſale of which would be the moſt rapid and moſt lucrative. The purchaſers might be left at liberty to pay either in money, or, what would be better, in the productions of the country, which the iſlanders would part with at a moderate price, in order to provide themſelves with our merchandiſe we ſhould, beſides, be enabled to take advantage of every circumſtance for purchaſing, as cheaply as poſſible, the territorial productions which barter might not furniſh. This double operation would alſo double the profits.

The commodities which the Iſland of NAXIA itſelf would furniſh, are wine, corn, cotton, ſilk, oil, fruit, ſalt, emery, &c. It is aſſerted that, beſides quarries of very beautiful marble, it contains mines more rich in gold and ſilver. It would not be to that only that the arrangements would be confined; this would, in ſome meaſure, be no more than the acceſſory, or rather the motive; and induſtry would have other means of extending itſelf in a ſuitable manner.

1. It has been ſaid that the ſmall craft of the ARCHIPELAGO and of the coaſts of GREECE frequently

frequently put into NAXIA; the eſtabliſhment would not fail to attract thither a greater number. Theſe boats are conducted by trading Greeks, and they would take at the ſtore-houſe parcels of goods in order to convey them for ſale into the other iſlands, and to the neighbouring coaſts of ASIA and EUROPE. Obliged at preſent to make their purchaſes at SMYRNA, SALONICA, and in the other factories, where they buy from the ſecond, and frequently from the third hand, they would find it more to their advantage to provide themſelves at NAXIA; on the one hand, economy in the purchaſes; and on the other, a ſaving in the duration, the expenſes and the dangers of the voyage. An important remark, which is of a nature to intereſt the commercial men of FRANCE, and conſequently her government, is that the Greek merchants in the large ſea-ports, preferred taking off Engliſh and Venetian goods which were become cheaper than ours, and, I muſt add, of a ſuperior quality; for, to ſpeak only of the woollen-cloths, there had, within theſe few years, been introduced ſo blameable a negligence and parſimony in the manufacturing of thoſe intended for the LE-

VANT

VANT trade, that they were diſdained by the Orientals.

2. It would be very uſeful to have one and even ſeveral caïques, for the carrying-trade from iſland to iſland, and from the latter to the adjacent coaſts; they would collect in the emporium the commodities which thoſe iſlands and thoſe coaſts furniſh, and they would carry thither French merchandiſe. Theſe little veſſels belonging to Frenchmen, would be reſpected by the Malteſe privateers, and by thoſe of other nations, which have adopted the ſtrange and impolitic ſyſtem of a perpetual war with the Muſſulmans. They would afford a ſafe paſſage and inviolable protection to the Turks and Greeks, who would haſten to freight them in order to trade in ſeas where they run great riſks, at the ſame time that they pay exorbitant duties of freight and commiſſion. Such an uninterrupted carrying-trade would yield a great return; and if, in the ſequel, it were wiſhed to give it greater increaſe, it would be proper to purchaſe a Bermudian ſloop, of the burden of fifty or ſixty tons. This ſloop might alſo be made uſe of for voyages to FRANCE; in that caſe, ſhe would not only ſave, but alſo gain, freight. This is the ſort of veſſel which

which lies nearer to the wind, which ſails the beſt cloſe-hauled, and which is the moſt quickly managed. Although preferable to tartans, the Bermudian ſloop is not in uſe in the MEDITERRANEAN; yet her qualities make her well calculated for the navigation of a ſea interſected by a multitude of lands, between which veſſels are frequently obliged to ply in narrow channels.

3. We ſhould not confine ourſelves to purchaſing, or receiving in exchange, the articles which enter into the trade uſed in the LEVANT; but we ſhould alſo take off corn and wine, in the places and at the periods when they are in the greateſt plenty. With the corn, we ſhould make biſcuit, with which, as well as with wine, we ſhould ſupply the veſſels which frequent the ſeas of TURKEY, and which would prefer drawing their proviſions from the ſtorehouſe than from the ſea-port towns, where all commodities are kept up at a high price. We may judge how intereſting this article is, when we ſhall recollect that, before the war, there were no leſs than five hundred French veſſels engaged in the carrying-trade, in the part of the MEDITERRANEAN which bathes the Ottoman poſſeſſions. I have ſaid that theſe veſſels left

FRANCE

FRANCE in ballaſt, and that they ſailed for three years, in the ſervice and at the expenſe of the Levantines, who, for fear of privateers, durſt not make uſe of their own veſſels. Peace will reſtore to the French carrying-trade its former activity. Upwards of three hundred veſſels, Venetians, Raguſans, Neapolitans, &c. there alſo exerciſed this ſort of carrying-trade, in competition with the French, without reckoning the ſhips of all nations employed in regular voyages, that is, direct from EUROPE to one of the ſea-ports in the LEVANT. The victualling of the ſhips would not form the only conſumption of biſcuit; there are iſlands in the ARCHIPELAGO which cannot ſupport their inhabitants, either on account of the aridity of their ſoil, or from the weakneſs of their population, or becauſe the iſlanders, given up to fiſhing or navigation, do not employ themſelves in the culture of their lands; or in ſhort, becauſe deſpotiſm, by enchaining induſtry, there extinguiſhes even foreſight, that ordinary companion of the love of exiſtence. During the winter, a period when navigation is benumbed, fiſhing ſuſpended, and want more perceptible, boats, loaded with biſcuit, would be

be received in thoſe iſlands, with eagerneſs, and their cargoes purchaſed with avidity.

4. The progreſs and ſucceſs of the undertaking depend, in a great meaſure, on celebrity in the carrying-trade; boats which would never remain in inaction, would be ſometimes employed in bringing to the ſtore-houſe, wood which the crews would cut on the coaſts, where frequently the fineſt trees coſt only the trouble of felling them; of thoſe we would faſhion ſhip-timber equally in requeſt by the Levantines and by the ſhips of EUROPE. We ſhould even derive a profit from it, by ſending it to FRANCE.

This ſummary, although greatly abridged, ſhews ſufficiently how many means we ſhould have of enlarging the commerce of the ARCHIPELAGO; they would be increaſed on the ſpot by a crowd of circumſtances which would rapidly ſucceed each other, and, eſpecially, as I have already ſaid, by local knowledge, enlightened attention, and induſtrious activity.

The goods for importation from the ARCHIPELAGO are of two ſorts; thoſe which are common to all the LEVANT, as wax, oil, ſoot, ſilk, wool, cotton, hair, goat's hair, ox's hides and horns, cow's hair, drugs, raiſins, and figs,

coffee, &c. &c; and thoſe which are peculiar to the iſlands, are maſtic, turpentine, jaſmin pomatum, ſtuffs and purſes of SCIO ſilk, *dimities** and *ſcamittes* of SANTORIN, PAROS, &c; ſtockings and caps of ARGENTIERA cotton, TINO knit ſilk ſtockings, native MILO alum and ſulphur, mill-ſtones from the ſame iſland, wines of SAMOS, SANTORIN, TENEDOS, SCOPOLI, NAXIA, and CANDIA; NAXIA and PAROS marbles, carnelions, ſaffron, ſponges, archil, Cimolean earth, coloquintida, cypreſs gum and cones, filtering-ſtones, gall-nuts, marum, ortolans in barrels, cuttle-fiſh bones, &c. &c.

The articles for exportation ſhould be very diverſified. It is important always to have a complete aſſortment of them, and to proportion the quantity of each of the articles, to the conſumption and taſte of the people for whom they are intended. The following is an account of them, in which I have adopted alphabetical order, as the moſt convenient, and I have there diſtinguiſhed the more or

* *Dimity* is a cotton cloth croſſed, finer, ſtronger, and more in requeſt than the *ſcamitte*, another ſort of plain cotton cloth.

leſs

leſs great conſumption of the various articles.*

LIST

Of the different articles of merchandiſe which enter into the trade of the ARCHIPELAGO.

Barracan
Beef-ſalt
Beer
Blondes
Bottles (glaſs)
Bracelets
Brocades (ſlight)
Buttons, *a ſmall quantity.*
Bougie (ſpun)

* This account, which I had publiſhed in 1797, was addreſſed officially, by the miniſter of the interior, to all the departmental adminiſtrations, at the epoch of the capture of the Venetian Iſlands, and the Iſle of *Cerigo* by the French armies, in order to direct, in a certain manner, the ſpeculations towards the commerce of theſe ſame iſlands. This adoption of my views, on the part of the government, muſt, undoubtedly, do me honour, but no one has known that they were mine, and I take the liberty of making this obſervation, only to ſecure myſelf from the ſuſpicion of plagiariſm towards the miniſter of the interior of that time.

Cadis, a ſort of ſerge
Calmande
Cambric
Candles (wax) for the table, *a ſmall quantity.*
Caps (worſted) red and others
Cards (playing) *a few* new, *more* old ones.
Chali, a ſort of twilled ſerge
Chiſels for ſtone-cutters, marble-cutters, joiners, ironmongers, &c.
Cloth (gold and ſilver) out of faſhion, and in remnants only.
Cloth (hempen) common and Dutch
Cloth (ſail)
Cloths (woollen)
Combs
Cords
Corks for dame-jeannes and bottles, *a great many.*
Crape (Swiſs)
Crockery
Damaſk
Dame-jeannes covered with ſtraw.
Damaſquette (Venice)
Drugget
Drugs (compounded)
Ferret
Flowers (Italian)
Fuſtain

Gauze
Glaſſes for mirrors
Glaſs-ware
Grogrammes
Gunpowder
Hams
Handkerchiefs (pocket)
Hangings
Hardware
Hats
Herrings
Iron
Kitchen utenſils
Lace (narrow French thread) black and white, of little value.
Lace (net) gold and ſilver, more falſe than genuine.
Lace (gold and ſilver) of all breadths, and of the moſt ſhowy patterns.
Lead
Legumes
Linon or French lawn
Mohair
Muſkets
Nails
Necklaces
Needles, *a great many.*
Nutmegs

Packthread
Paper
—— painted
Parchment, *a little.*
Paſteboard
Pearls
Pins
Piſtols
Planks
Prunes
Ribands (ſilk) of all ſorts, and eſpecially the handſomeſt, *a great many.*
Rings
Salmon
Sardines
Sattins
Sciſſars
Serge
Sergette
Ship-timber
Shoes (embroidered, for women)
Spirit of wine
Steel
Stockings (thread) *a great many, a few paire* of ſilk.
Stuffs of all ſorts, beſides thoſe mentioned in this liſt, and to chooſe among the moſt *ſhowy*; *by way of trial.*

Sugar

Sugar
—— in powder
Sugarcandy
Taffety
Tea
Thimbles for ſowing
Thread
Thonine
Treacle
Watches (large) ſome with Turkiſh dial-plates and characters.
Wax-candles
Wax-tapers in rolls
Wire (braſs)
—— iron
Velvet (coloured ſilk)
Velvet (cotton)

N. B. It is not poſſible to fix the ſums that would be required for the eſtabliſhment of which I have juſt treated: the more or leſs importance that we ſhould propoſe to give it would regulate the amount. We might begin at a ſmall expenſe, and impreſs on it by degrees the movement fit for inſuring it the greateſt profits.

CHAPTER XXXVI.

Iſland of Stenoſa.—*Iſland of* Patmos.—*Its convent.—Its harbours.—Its population.—Small iſlands near* Patmos.—*Iſle of* Samos.—*Its fertility.—Its wines.—Its poſition.—* Fournis *Iſlands.—Iſland of* Nicaria.—*Iſland of* Myconi.—*Its harbours.—Its inhabitants.—Its reſources.—Dreſs of the women.—* Trago-niſi.—Stapodia.—*Iſle of* Delos.—*What it was formerly.—What it is in our days.—Iſland of* Rhene.—Rematiari.—*Iſland of* Tino.—*Its nature.—Its ſilk ſtockings.—Women of* Tino.

NEAR the Iſland of NAXIA, towards the eaſt, lies that of *STENOSA*, or *NARROW ISLAND*, which is, in fact, very ſmall and uninhabited. Farther on, to the north-north-eaſt, the Iſland of PATMOS, whoſe name has been diſfigured by our navigators into that of *SAINT JEAN DE PATINO*, exhibits its arid rocks and numerous capes. It is celebrated in eccleſiaſtical

eccleſiaſtical hiſtory, from the exile of ST. JOHN, and ſtill more from the viſions and revelations which he there received, and which ſerved him for compoſing the Apocalypſe. Some Caloyers, inhabitants of a vaſt monaſtery built on an eminence, and which, at the firſt view, one would be tempted to take for a fortreſs, true diſciples of ſtupid ignorance, ſtill ſhew the grotto where the ſaint wrote his myſterious book, and even the hole in the wall through which he received the inſpiration of the Holy Ghoſt.

There is no library in this convent; and of what utility would it be, among people who, for the moſt part, cannot read? Out of eighty monks who reſide there, M. DE CHOISEUL-GOUFFIER found only three who knew how to read, but who made little uſe of that knowledge*. It is, nevertheleſs, this haunt of brutality and ignorance, where the alphabet is ſcarcely known, which has been repreſented recently as a place famous for its ſchools of literature†.

The Iſland of PATMOS is little more than ſix leagues in circuit; conſiderably longer

* *Voyage Pittoreſque de la Grèce*, tom. i, page 103.

† *Magaſin Encyclopédique*, 4th year, No. xxiii. page 293.

than

than broad, its direction is from north to south; its form is very irregular. Its coasts are divided by a multitude of gulfs and coves, and are remarkable for the number of good harbours which they present to navigators, and among which that of *Scala* is one of the finest in the *Archipelago*. Whatever advantages may be derived from its harbours by a country whose position marks it out for a place of trade, wretchedness has not, on that account, the less got possession of Patmos. Vallies which might insure abundance, are uncultivated, and from their state of abandonment and nakedness, offer, with the hills by which they are surrounded, only the same afflicting tint of ruggedness and misfortune. Population, which follows the chances of agriculture and industry, is there singularly diminished; and, while the monasteries swarm with sluggards, the fields become deserts. In the summer, few men remain here; they almost all go and seek far off means of subsistence, or carry on with their caïques, a traffic which feeds, but does not enrich them. The women remain intrusted with domestic cares, and to make the most of a few pieces of land, during the absence of their fathers or husbands; and this timid tribe hide and shut themselves

themſelves up, when they ſee ſtrangers land in their iſland.

Several ſmall iſlands are ſituated to the eaſt of PATMOS, in the great bight of the ſea, between the Iſlands of STANCHO and SAMOS. Theſe iſlands are *NACRI*, *LYPSO*, *AGATHO-NISI*, and *FERMACO*, they are all nearly uninhabited. To the north of them lies an iſland more famous and more important, that of *SAMOS* of IONIA; for the ancients had impoſed this ſame name of *SAMOS* on three different iſlands: the one ſituated near THRACE, whence it had taken the denomination of *SAMOS OF THRACE*, or, in a ſingle word, *SAMOTHRACE*, at preſent *SAMANDRACHI*; the ſecond, which the Greeks called *SAMOS THE STEEP*, at preſent *CEPHALONIA*; laſtly, the third, lying very near the coaſt of IONIA, and of which I am now ſpeaking. Some aſſert that the name of *SAMOS*, which has replaced ſeveral other names that this iſland had before, was given to it from a hero who was born there: others affirm that the Greeks, calling all elevated places *SAMOS*, had, under this denomination, deſignated an iſland which, in fact, preſents conſiderable eminences.

It was formerly conſecrated to JUNO who there received life, on the banks of the

river IMBRASUS, and under the ſhade of an *agnus caſtus*, or chaſte tree, a ſhrub common in SAMOS, as well as in the other iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO. A magnificent temple had been erected in honour of the goddeſs: at this day, a few remains of it are ſcarcely to be found; it is annihilated, as well as the ancient ſplendour of the iſland. SAMOS was alſo the cradle of PYTHAGORAS, of the poet CHERILUS, of the mathematician CONON, cotemporary of ARCHIMEDES, of TIMANTHUS, one of the moſt famous painters of ancient GREECE; and it was in the ſame iſland that HERODOTUS, flying from tyranny, ſought an aſylum, and compoſed in a ſweet retreat the firſt books of his hiſtory.

For a long time paſt we cannot quote any celebrated perſonage born at SAMOS. It is not under the reign of heavy tyranny that genius and talents proſper, and ſlaves can become great men. But the Samians diſtinguiſh themſelves by amiable qualities; they are the mildeſt and moſt witty of the Greeks. Their country ſtill poſſeſſes every thing required to become flouriſhing: very good harbours, the beſt of which is that of *VATHI*, a poſition very advantageous for trade, a fertile ſoil, a wholeſome climate, a pure air, and abundant waters.

What

What ſources of riches and happineſs, if impure hands had not dried them up by an adminiſtration which ſeems to have been engendered by the genius of deſtruction!

The productions of SAMOS are the ſame as thoſe of the moſt favoured iſlands; they might acquire greater abundance and variety, if the inhabitants durſt give themſelves up to labours, which, in a ſtate well organized, would be animated by encouragement. The ancients admired the brilliant fertility of this iſland; it was an object of envy in the eyes of ſeveral nations, which repeatedly attempted to make themſelves maſters of it. To convey an idea of this abundance, it was commonly ſaid that at SAMOS hens even gave milk. But what is ſingular, is that the ancients there found every thing excellent, except the wine*; while it makes, at preſent, and deſervedly too, one of the beſt revenues of the iſland; and its muſcadine wines would, with greater precautions, and if they were kept, attain the quality of that of CYPRUS, ſo eſteemed among us. During my abode in the ARCHIPELAGO, I ſaw ſe-

* *Ex vino infelix eſt cùm cæteræ circumvicinæ vino optimo abundent.* STRABO, rerum geograph. lib. xiv.

veral

veral large ſhips from the North, and particularly Swedes, take in at SAMOS cargoes of wines, in order to convey them into their country, and I always have been ſurpriſed that they have not been more in vogue in FRANCE.

The Iſland of SAMOS is about ten leagues in length, and nearly the half in its greateſt breadth; but this extent in length exiſts only in a ſingle point, on account of a narrow cape, ſtretching very far towards the ſouth, which is called Cape *COLONNI*, and a few fragments of which have been ſeparated by the ſea: theſe are called *SAMO-POULO* or *LITTLE SAMOS*. *GREAT SAMOS* is itſelf but a fragment more conſiderable, detached from the continent, from which it is ſeparated only by a channel that is ſcarcely half a league in width. Navigators are acquainted with this little ſtrait under the name of *LITTLE BOGAZ*; the great Bogaz of *SAMOS*, which is nearly two leagues in breadth, lies to the weſt, between that iſland and the ſmall *FOURNIS* Iſlands, called thus, becauſe, at a diſtance, they have the figure of roofs of ovens: they were anciently called *CORSEÆ INSULÆ*. This is a paſſage much frequented by ſhips ſailing

ing from CONSTANTINOPLE to SYRIA and EGYPT, and they there find good anchorages.

Near theſe iſlets, to the weſt, is the Iſland of *NICARIA*, anciently *ICARIA*, on account of the ſon of DÆDALUS, who fell there in the midſt of his raſh flight, whence the ſea which ſurrounds it alſo took the name of *ICARIAN SEA*. The iſland is not conſiderable; its length greatly exceeds its breadth; it is diſcoverable at a very great diſtance; but navigators do not endeavour to land there, becauſe it has no harbours. A ſcanty population, want of energy, a ſoil too ungrateful in ſeveral diſtricts, general diſcouragement which the government impreſſes throughout the extent of its domination, are little calculated to repair the diſadvantage of an iſland which is deprived of places of ſhelter for ſhipping, and conſequently of great means of trade; ſo that NICARIA may be reckoned among the moſt wretched iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO.

This is not the caſe with MYCONI, ſituated at ſome diſtance from NICARIA, towards the weſt. A harbour known by the name of TOURLON, on the weſt ſide of the iſland, is an anchorage frequented by ſhips ſailing through the ARCHIPELAGO, in order to repair

pair to SMYRNA and the north of TURKEY: they are there in ſafety againſt the winds from the north, north-eaſt, ſouth, and ſouth-eaſt; but the others blow right in there, and raiſe a heavy ſea. When navigators ſeek a ſhelter againſt theſe ſame winds, they find it off the ſmall town or village of MYCONI; but they are there buffeted by thoſe which cannot penetrate into the anchorage of TOURLON.

The Greeks of MYCONI are great navigators; they traverſe the ſea that ſurrounds them with their boats, among which there are ſome rather large. Addicted to maritime trade, they neglect the culture of their lands, from which they might, nevertheleſs, derive conſiderable advantage. All the productions which they yield in too ſmall a quantity, for want of culture, are of a very good quality; wine and fruits are there excellent: but though wine is almoſt the only article of commerce of the Myconites, they mix it with water to increaſe its quantity, without paying attention that they diminiſh its value. Game abounds there; the moſt delicate birds arrive in numerous flights twice a year, in ſpring and autumn; in ſhort, all the neceſſary or agreeable articles of life are there to be found

in

in profuſion. But water is ſcarce; and, during the great heat of ſummer, every thing is dry in the fields, and aſſumes the aſpect of aridity. This drought, the intenſity of which might, with eaſe, be diminiſhed, has, doubtleſs, contributed to narrow there the domain of agriculture, and to induce men to ſeek, abroad, means of exiſtence more certain and leſs laborious.

The name of this iſland has not changed; the Greeks called it *Myconos*. Fable makes it the tomb of the Centaurs that were killed by Hercules. The ancient writers have called the inhabitants of Myconi, bald heads: it is aſſerted that this was a defect which was natural to them, and as it were an endemical diſeaſe with which they almoſt all came into the world. We no longer remark among the preſent iſlanders theſe diſpoſitions to become bald. Thoſe of antiquity were likewiſe reckoned great paraſites, and men who preſented themſelves at feaſts, without being invited, were proverbially called *gueſts of Myconi;* a habit which not only announces diſtreſs, or exceſs of gluttony, but alſo an abſolute want of delicacy among thoſe who have contracted it.

When we have ſeen the dreſs of the women of MILO and ARGENTIERA, we no longer find that of the female Greeks of MYCONI ſo ridiculous; it ſomewhat reſembles the former, yet without being ſo whimſical; it is, in general, more loaded with ornaments heaped up without taſte, without intelligence, but which are not, on that account, leſs diſadvantageous to beauty. The principal occupation of theſe women is to ſpin cotton which grows in their iſland, and to make it into ſtockings or cloths.

A ſhoal uninhabited, and to which the Myconites ſend flocks, affords a good anchorage a league to the eaſt of MYCONI; it is called *TRAGONISI*, that is, he-goat iſland, becauſe, in all probability, it formerly contained wild he and ſhe-goats; but none are ſeen there at preſent.

Lower, and a little farther from MYCONI, are two points of arid rocks, which the Greeks call *STAPODIA*; and our navigators, *LES DEUX FRE`RES.*

A ſort of religious tremor takes poſſeſſion of the mind, when, on quitting the Iſland of *MYCONI*, one makes ſail to the weſt, and approaches an iſland very ſmall, but which was in antiquity the moſt celebrated of all; a ſacred

ſacred ſpot, the cradle of APOLLO and DIANA, the ſubject of the ſongs of the moſt famous poets, and the object of the veneration of the ancients, who came thither to adore APOLLO in a temple, one of the moſt ſuperb edifices on earth, and the majeſtic ornament of the moſt magnificent city in the world. Who has not heard of the wonders of DELOS, of its monuments, of its riches, of its brilliant population, of the magnificent elegance of its architecture? Who, with a taſte for the beautiful, has not, in the annals of the happy days of GREECE, greedily ſought the deſcription of ſo many miracles of art? I ſhall not here repeat what may be read in ſeveral works of great merit, among which that of BARTHELEMI ought, in my opinion, to hold the firſt rank*.

But the Iſland of DELOS, formerly ſo opulent, and where were celebrated with ſo much pomp religious ceremonies, in preſence of an immenſe concourſe who repaired thither from all points of the EAST, is now no longer any thing but a deſert abandoned to filthy animals and covered with ruins and rubbiſh. Pirates and robbers are almoſt the only men

* *Voyage du jeune Anacharſis.*

who land there; they go thither to ſhare the fruit of their plunder, or concert new ſchemes of rapine, ſeated on fragments of altars where incenſe and perfumes burnt in honour of the god of day.

The ruins of DELOS, the impoſing remains of the moſt beautiful edifices of which ancient GREECE was proud, are now no longer what they were at the periods when modern travellers viſited and deſcribed them. They themſelves have their ruins, and they owe this freſh degradation to the profane barbariſm of people who came thither to take materials for building their houſes, or to wretched Turkiſh ſculptors, who carry off every year precious pieces, in order to make of them thoſe little pillars ſurmounted by a turban, which the Mahometans erect over the grave of the dead. The name even of DELOS is forgotten in the ſeas where it had acquired ſo great a celebrity. The Greeks at this day name *DILI* the two iſlands of DELOS, and our navigators diſtinguiſh them by the denomination of *ISDILES, LES ISDILES.*

A ſtrait of about five hundred toiſes, ſeparates the famous iſland of DELOS from that of *RHENEA,* or great DELOS, equally deſert, and which ſerved as a place of ſepulture

ture to the former, in which it was forbidden to bury. In the middle of this narrow channel, are two ſhoals called the *Great* and the *Little Rematiari:* the ancient Greeks had conſecrated the larger to Hecate or Diana, and they called it the *Island of Hecate*, or *Psammite*. Ships, even men of war, find good anchorage near this ſhoal.

Almoſt all the veſſels which repair to Smyrna and to the other ſea ports of Asia Minor, ſail out between the Iſlands of *Tino* and *Myconi*, a channel which is not more than a league and a half in width. When the north wind blows with any degree of violence, it becomes impetuous in this paſſage, and the ſea there riſes with fury. The Iſland of Tino has no good harbour; there is only a rather bad roadſtead off the ſmall town of *San Nicolo*, built on the ruins of the ancient town of *Tenos*, the capital of the iſland, whoſe name has not, as is ſeen, much changed. Near the ancient town, a temple had been erected to Neptune who was there revered, becauſe to this god the inhabitants attributed the happineſs of having been freed from a prodigious number of ſnakes which infeſted the iſland, and whence

it had taken the name of *Snake Island*. This temple no longer exiſts in the memory of men, neither does the town of *Tenos*; but the whole iſland is a real temple, dear to Nature, and which ſhe has taken a delight to adorn with her favours. Its rich plains are ſtill decked with all the opulence of induſtry. The inhabitants are active and numerous; every thing there combines to make it one of the moſt agreeable iſlands of Greece, and at the ſame time one of thoſe where comfort and happineſs appear to fix themſelves with moſt conſtancy. What would it be if ſo many advantages could be ſeconded by a wiſe liberty, which conſtitutes the ſtrength and proſperity of empires!

One of the moſt abundant productions of the iſland is ſilk; the women employ themſelves in feeding the inſect which yields it, in winding it into ſkains, in ſpinning it and knitting it into ſtockings, which have not the luſtre of ſtockings wove in the loom, but which are far better, cheaper, and of excellent wear. It is, no doubt, the fear of injuring our manufactories, which had prevented the introduction into France of the works in ſilk, knit by the women of Tino; they would, nevertheleſs, deſerve to be

be brought thither, and they would ſuit perſons who prefer what is ſolid to what is agreeable.

The dreſs of the women given to pleaſant but uninterrupted occupations, has nothing of the whimſicalneſs of that of the women of ſeveral other iſlands; it is at the ſame time noble and elegant. Beauty, the general appendage of the female Tiniots, under this dreſs, neither loſes the graces of its outlines, nor its bewitching forms, and the amenity of diſpoſition, the ingenuous candour, an innocent deſire to pleaſe, there render the young women extremely amiable, and extremely attractive.

CHAPTER XXXVII.

Scio.—*Character of its inhabitants, and particularly of the women.—Their clothing.—Silk purſes which they work.—Witchcraft ariſing from the look of Envy.—Trade of the Iſle of* Scio.—*Its wines.—Culture of the vine and of maſtic.—Its plains.—Leproſy.—Harbour of* Scio.—*Iſland of* Ipſara.—*The Iſlands* Spalmadori, Pyſargos, *and* Venetico.—Tſcheſmé—*Engagement between the Ruſſians and Turks.—Journey by land from* Tſcheſmé *to* Smyrna.—*Warm baths.—Caravanſary.*

"THERE is no town," ſays BE'LON, "where "people are more obliging than at CHIO. "And, indeed, it is, in my mind, the moſt "agreeable place of reſidence that I know, "and where the women are moſt courteous "and handſome. They afford an infallible "teſtimony of their ancient beauty; for, "as a nymph in the Iſland of CHIO, ſur-"paſſing ſnow in whiteneſs, was called by "the

" the Greek name *Chione*, that is to ſay,
" ſnow; in this very manner the iſland tak-
" ing the name of the nymph, was ſurnamed
" *Chio*. The men there are alſo very ami-
" able; and though this is a Greek iſland,
" however, for the moſt part, people live
" there in the ſtyle of the Franks, that is,
" after the manner of the Latins*."

What Be'lon wrote in the ſixteenth century, reſpecting the capital town of the Iſle of Scio, is ſtill conformable to truth, except a few modifications, or rather a few deteriorations, phyſical and moral, the habitual effects of the preſence and harſh and improvident adminiſtration of the Ottomans. The town is tolerably large and well built; it is the work of the Genoeſe, who for a long time had the whole iſland in their poſſeſſion. The ancient town, which, as well as the iſland, bore the name of *Chios* or *Chio*, was placed on the ſummit of a mountain. The modern town is at the foot of this ſame mountain, by the ſea-ſide, and its ſituation is thence become much more agreeable. The Greeks

* *Les Obſervations de pluſieurs ſingularitez et choſes mémorables, trouvées en Grèce, Aſie, &c. &c.* par Pierre Be'lon. liv. ii. chap. viii.

who

who inhabit it are ſtill, as in BE'LON's time, the moſt polite, the moſt affable, the moſt gay, and, perhaps, the moſt witty of all the Greeks. The women there are charming, and, as BE'LON ſays, very courteous. There are none, perhaps, who have ſuch engaging manners; and, to ſee them at the doors of their houſes, preſs ſtrangers to enter with them, pull them even by the arm, and invite them with much ſprightlineſs, we cannot, at firſt, avoid conceiving an improper opinion of women ſo free in appearance. But all theſe demonſtrations, which, among us, are the height of depravity, are, at SCIO, no more than the ebullitions of an affectionate and hoſpitable heart, and of the wiſh to derive ſome advantage from the works on which they employ themſelves; and any one would be ſingularly deceived, if, emboldened by the ſemblance of enticements, he ſhould attempt to take an unfair advantage of women, who introduce ſtrangers into their houſes with a frankneſs which, from a habit of corruption, is reckoned a want of reſerve. Under appearances the moſt attractive, and at the ſame time the moſt familiar and engaging, the ſeducer would, in an eaſy *tête-à-tête*, meet with only the impoſing

poſing reſiſtance of the moſt rigid virtue, and the ſhame of being miſtaken.

Theſe women ſo frank, but at the ſame time ſo virtuous, knit with ſilk ſeveral ſorts of works, and particularly handſome purſes. The deſire of ſelling them has induced thoſe who work them, to learn to offer them in the language of all the nations which traffic in the LEVANT; and a Frenchman, as well as an Italian and a Swede, heard himſelf addreſſed from all quarters, in his language, when he paſſed in the ſtreets of SCIO, "Sir, "Sir, come and ſee ſome handſome purſes!" I bought ſome of theſe purſes at SCIO; the handſomeſt, which are alſo the largeſt, coſt me not three livres a piece, and they could not be procured in FRANCE for more than double that price.

The rearing of ſilk-worms is an occupation almoſt general at SCIO. The women there principally apply themſelves to it, and they take every precaution imaginable, in order that ſome ill-diſpoſed perſon may not caſt on valuable inſects the peſtiferous look of envy, which, according to the Greeks, would not fail to kill them. This ſort of ſuperſtitious creed, of which I have ſpoken more in detail in Chapter XXVII. is general in Greece, where

where it is applied to all animated beings. In ſome parts of FRANCE and GERMANY, the country people dread the influence of ſiniſter looks only for their cattle, and the Spaniſh ladies of PERU fear it for themſelves*. It is eaſier to ſpread an error all the world over than to propagate a truth.

If any thing could diſparage the charms and affability of the women of SCIO, it would, undoubtedly, be their manner of dreſſing themſelves. Their clothing is without grace, and put on without taſte. The more they endeavour to adorn themſelves, the more they recede from the rules of an art which, in order to be attended with ſucceſs, ought to tend only to ſet to advantage the beautiful forms of nature. The female Sciots ſeem to

* "The ladies of *Peru* wear round their necklace amulets, "which are medals without an impreſſion, and a ſmall "hand of jet, three lines broad, or fig-tree wood called "*higa*, cloſed with the exception of the thumb, which is "aiſed. The idea of virtue which they attribute to theſe "amulets, is to ſecure themſelves from the complaint which "they imagine may be communicated to them by thoſe "who admire their beauty; a complaint which they call "the diſorder of the eyes. Some of theſe preparatives, of "a larger ſize, are made for children. This ſuperſtition "is common to the ladies and to the people." *Voyage à "la mer du Sud, par* FRE'ZIER, page 219.

envelop

envelop theſe in a ſack; their head is loaded with a high and ſhapeleſs head-dreſs, ſomewhat ſimilar to the cap of the Mamalûks of EGYPT; and their manner of adorning their feet is no leſs inconvenient than ridiculous. I have cauſed to be drawn a pair of ſhoes or ſandals of the women of SCIO, at the bottom of *Plate VI.* which repreſents the coſtume, ſtill more abſurd, of the women of ARGENTIERA.

Silk conſtitutes the principal wealth of SCIO; velvets, damaſks, and ſtuffs of different ſorts are there manufactured: but theſe efforts of happy induſtry, inſtead of having been encouraged, have experienced difficulties and obſtacles, which have cauſed the number and the produce of the manufactories to diminiſh. This iſland partakes with others of the ſame ſea, the trade of wool, wax, oil, and excellent fruits, eſpecially ſweet-ſcented oranges and figs, which are conveyed into the great towns of TURKEY. It is well known that SCIO produced wines held in great repute among the ancients; hiſtorians and poets have extolled them as the beſt in GREECE, a country famous for delicious wines. At ROME, they were preſcribed for diſorders of the ſtomach, and CESAR regaled his friends with them

them in the entertainments which he gave on the occaſion of his triumphs, and in the feſtivals in honour of JUPITER and the other Gods*. Theſe wines, ſo celebrated by the wine connoiſſeurs of antiquity, are ſtill very good at this day. The vine is, among the preſent Greeks, an object of great culture and attention; they plant it on the ſloping grounds, and before they make the wine, they ſuffer the grapes, which they cut in the month of Auguſt, to dry for a week in the ſun. They have preſerved the manner propoſed by CATO (*De re ruſticâ*), for ſecuring vines from the ravages of inſects, and which conſiſts in ſurrounding the plants with a mixture of bitumen, ſulphur, and oil. This preſervative, deſcribed by CATO, has been announced in our days as a novelty, in ſeveral works of rural economy; and it is not the only very old diſcovery with which certain authors have wiſhed to do themſelves honour in more than one way. However this may be, the authority of CATO, whoſe writings on agriculture are a model of ſimplicity and perſpicuity, indiſpenſable in works of this ſort, and which have not had many imita-

* Plin. Hiſt. Nat. lib. xiv. cap. vii. xiv. and xv.

tors,

tors, a happy and immemorial practice among a nation, whoſe wines have had and preſerved a great name, muſt inſpire confidence, and induce the adoption of a preſervative ſo uſeful.

But a trade peculiar to the Iſle of Scio, is the reſin, which is there made to exude from the lentiſk; whole fields are covered with this ſhrub, whoſe wood alſo furniſhes the beſt toothpicks to the fancy of the Roman ladies. The maſtic which is drawn from it, is one of the moſt certain productions of the iſland: it is carried to Constantinople, and into the great cities of the Empire, where the women are inceſſantly chewing it in order to render their breath ſweet and agreeable. This reſin was ſold at Scio, when I paſſed there, for about five livres of our money the pound. There is alſo made, with maſtic, a brandy very good and agreeable.

When one comes from any of the Iſlands of the Archipelago, whoſe ſoil is rude and mountainous, one is ſtruck by the richneſs and beauty of the Iſland of Scio. A town elegantly built, agreeable gardens, plains delightful from the gifts of nature and the labours of a well-underſtood culture, mountains whoſe arid ſurface ſtill throws more charms over rich vallies, an amiable and

induſtrious people — every thing contributes to make Scio a very agreeable place, and it is with regret that one ſees it delivered up to the deſpotic ignorance of the Turks. Their ſiniſter improvidence there frequently ſuffers the introduction of deſtructive ſcourges, among which they themſelves hold a very remarkable rank, and the plague often exerciſes its ravages in this charming country.

The leproſy alſo there propagates its diſguſting ſymptoms; and what proves that the precautions claimed by humanity, but of which a ſtupid adminiſtration is incapable, would be ſufficient to annihilate it, is that the ſpecies of leproſy, common in all the East, and of which ſo many victims are ſeen in Candia, the Jews' leproſy, is there becoming more rare from day to day.

There is nothing wanting at Scio to render its trade more flouriſhing, but a good harbour; that which exiſts is by no means ſpacious or deep; and rocks, even with the water's edge, obſtruct its entrance: it can receive none but ſmall veſſels; large ſhips and men of war anchor without, in an open road, which has, at leaſt, the advantage of affording the facility of going out of it with all winds. France maintained at Scio a vice-

conſul

conſul; he occupied a large and agreeable houſe; the Jeſuits had alſo a convent there: but what is of greater importance, no merchant of our nation was there eſtabliſhed, although ſeveral had been ſettled there formerly, and it is a place of great trade, both on account of the rich productions of the iſland, and the crowd of ſhipping which put in there, or come thither to take in cargoes.

Round Scio are ſeveral ſmall iſlands. About two leagues to the weſt of Cape San Nicolo, the moſt northern of the iſland, is *Ipsara*, which the ancients called *Psyra* and *Psyria*, on which there was a town of the ſame name, whoſe place is now occupied by the modern town: here a few veſtiges of the ancient city are ſtill to be ſeen. This town is the only habitation of the iſland, which is ſmall, ſtony, and affords no great reſources to agriculture and commerce. The vine delights in this ſtony ſoil, and it is to its culture that the rural induſtry of the Iſpariots is nearly limited, as the wine which they export is their only branch of commerce.

A league from *Ipsara*, lies an iſlet ſmaller and deſert, which is called *Anti-Ipsara*; it is ſcarcely two leagues in circumference:

between theſe two iſlands, ſhips find a very good anchorage.

Nearer, and to the eaſt of Scio, ſome iſlets, called *Spalmadori*, and anciently *Ænussa*, ſtill form for large ſhips a ſafe road. More to the ſouth lie two ſhoals, to which the ancient Greeks have given the name of *Casytes*, and the moderns that of *Pysargos*; laſtly, at the moſt ſouthern point of the iſland, called Cape *Mastico*, becauſe it is in this diſtrict that maſtic is gathered, another ſhoal, which has received the name of *Venetico*, leaves ſufficient ſpace for ſhips to paſs there without riſk, a ſea deep and clear, alike bathing the cape and the ſhoal.

The channel which ſeparates the Iſle of Scio from Asia Minor, is but two or three leagues in width. On the continent, the gulf and the little town of *Tschesmé* are oppoſite to the town of Scio itſelf, eternal teſtimonies of the defeat and ſhame of the Ottoman navy. It was in the very harbour of *Tschesmé*, that, in the month of July, 1770, the Turkiſh fleet, conſiſting of twenty-five ſail, fifteen of which were large caravels, was entirely deſtroyed by a Ruſſian ſquadron of nine ſhips of the line and ſix frigates, under the command of Count *Alexis Orloff*.

Never

Never was victory more terrible nor more complete: all the Turkiſh ſhips were abandoned to the flames, all blew up with a dreadful craſh; almoſt all the crews periſhed in this conflagration, and of all their navy, there remained to the Turks, after this battle, only two ſhips, which had not been able to join the fleet, and another old ſhip unfit for ſervice, in the channel of CONSTANTINOPLE. This formidable fleet, which ought in appearance to have driven the Ruſſians out of the ſeas of the LEVANT, diſappeared in an inſtant, and the latter remained maſters of the ARCHIPELAGO; had they choſen, they might likewiſe have become maſters of the capital of the empire, for the diſcouragement was general, and the caſtles of the DARDANELLES, not being in a condition to make a powerful reſiſtance, would not have been able to ſtop the conquerors. Carcaſſes of ſhips half burnt and ſunk, tops of maſts appearing out of the water, in the head of the harbour of TSCHESME, ſtill atteſt this event memorable and glorious for the Ruſſians, who diſplayed as much courage and ſkill in naval tactics, as their enemies ſhewed ignorance and cowardice.

TSCHESME, whoſe name recalls that of *Cyssus*, which this town formerly bore, affords

nothing remarkable; it is built on the declivity of a hill, at the head of the harbour. I had repaired thither with a boat, belonging to the country, which was to take me to SMYRNA; but, after having put into SCIO, and ſtruggled a long time againſt the northerly wind in order to get out of the channel, I was forced to ſeek there a place of ſhelter. Tired of waiting for more favourable weather, I reſolved to proceed to SMYRNA by land. I preſented myſelf, according to my cuſtom, to the Turkiſh commandant at TSCHESME', with my firman; he inſtantly procured me horſes and a *bareikdar*, or enſign, to accompany me.

A league from TSCHESME', I ſaw a ſpring of hot and mineral water, where the Turks belonging to the town go to take vapour baths. I there beheld a great crowd of bathers; it was on a Friday, a holiday for the Mahometans; however, they find there no other refreſhments than coffee, a beverage with which they can no more diſpenſe than with baths. The road, beyond theſe baths, becomes rather bad and difficult, acroſs a chain of lofty, ſtony mountains, covered with pines. I ſtopped, to paſs the night, in a caravanſary, where all travellers are received and

fed

fed indiſtinctly, without being put at any expenſe. The aliments, which are there ſerved, are ſimple, and common to all paſſengers; they conſiſt of bread, a diſh of eggs, and water. The houſe is endowed with property, ſufficient for providing for the temporary refreſhment of travellers. Foundations of this ſort are not uncommon in the EAST, the abode of hoſpitality: in my opinion, they indicate the more greatneſs of mind and frank generoſity, as ſpirit of pride and oſtentation, of which an apparent beneficence is but too frequently the cloak, can have in them no ſhare, ſince it is only on the death of the founder, that we are aware of the good which he has done. On the other hand, there are, in thoſe countries, neither great talkers nor officious public papers, which recommend to general admiration actions, all the merit of which often lies only in an ambitious publicity, and we there bleſs the memory of the founder without knowing his name.

Very early the next morning, I quitted a ſort of inn, very ſimple indeed, but which a traveller leaves with his mind as much ſatisfied as it is frequently ſoured, by the inſipid hoſpitality and the ſcandalous cupidity that is met with in the multitude of inns with which

our highways are covered. After having followed ſome roads ſtill worſe than the day before, I arrived early at *Dourlak* or *Vourla*, a ſmall town, ſituated on the ſouth coaſt of the Gulf of Smyrna, and, according to every probability, built on the ruins of *Clazomena*, an illuſtrious city of ancient Greece, and the country of Anaxagoras. Several ſmall iſlands, which lie in front, alſo bear the name of *Dourlak*, and form a very good harbour, whither trading veſſels come ſometimes to take in dry fruits and other commodities.

It is reckoned twelve hours' journey from Tschesmé to Dourlak; I was very well received here by a Greek mongrel, for he was the ſon of a Frenchman and a Greek woman. He had been ſettled here for a long time, and practiſed phyſic; he was, beſides, very eager to render ſervices to the French, whom he conſidered as his countrymen. Here I took other horſes, which the Turkiſh commandant procured me; he alſo gave me a *ulugh-bachi*, or captain of the gates, as an eſcort. The road which leads from Dourlak to Smyrna, is more agreeable than that from Tschesmé to Dourlak. It runs along the coaſt of the gulf; the way is not ſolitary; you paſs by habitations; birds are numerous on

on the trees of the country, and thoſe of the ſhore give life even to the ſand of the beach; while veſſels of every ſize, with ſwelling ſails, ſeem to fly over the ſurface of the waters.

After having paſſed *Cavadera*, you leave on the right two mountains, or rather two points of mountains, which appear of ſimilar form and ſize: our ſeamen of the Mediterranean have given to theſe two hills the denomination of *pouſſos*, which in the Provençal dialect ſignifies *mamelles*, (paps). You then arrive at a fortreſs, which is called *Smyrna Castle*, intended for defending the approaches of that large city. Ships are compelled to paſs under the cannon of this fort, in order to avoid ſome ſhoals by which this part of the gulf is obſtructed; and it would perfectly accompliſh its deſtination, were it not in a ſtate of decay, which would render it a weak place of defence. In ſhort, after having travelled about ten leagues, you arrive at Smyrna, a large city, built at the very head of the gulf, at the foot of a hill, and on the ſea-ſhore.

There is not in the Levant any ſituation better calculated to be the centre of a flouriſhing trade than that of Smyrna; it was alſo the richeſt and moſt ſplendid ſea-port.

Numerous caravans bring thither from the interior, ſpun cotton, ſilky ANGORA fleeces, PERSIA ſilk and carpets, drugs of every ſpecies, wax, figs, the fine dry raiſins, known by the French, in the LEVANT trade under the name of *pances de SMYRNE*, &c. &c. and even goods and merchandiſe from the ſouth of INDIA by way of PERSIA and ALEPPO; while ſhips of all the trading nations of EUROPE, loaded with commodities from that part of the world and with thoſe of AMERICA, arrive and ſucceed each other in a harbour, no leſs ſpacious than ſafe and convenient. This was alſo the rendezvous of ſhips of war belonging to the European nations, intended for protecting merchant-veſſels in the ſeas of TURKEY. They retired thither during the two or three winter months, a ſeaſon in which the navigation of the ARCHIPELAGO is very dangerous, on account of the long nights, which frequently prevent a navigator from knowing where he is, in the midſt of a labyrinth formed by a multitude of iſlands lying near to each other, and of waves which, not being able to ſpread, break, and are thrown back on all ſides with much impetuoſity, which, according to the expreſſion of the ancients, gives them ſome reſemblance to goats bounding

in the fields. Entertainments given and returned, made this refreſhing place a port very agreeable and much wiſhed for by the officers of thoſe ſhips.

The quarter of SMYRNA occupied by the Europeans, reſembled a town of EUROPE, and the mild and tolerating character of the Turks, inhabitants of the other quarters, rendered it a tranquil and ſafe reſidence to ſtrangers. An active induſtry and no ſmall ſhare of affability, reign among the Greeks of this town; their women have all the exterior qualities of beauty, and they know how to give them ſtill more charms and diſplay, by the noble, agreeable, and even voluptuous form of their garments. A few traders of EUROPE there diſplayed great luxury. Our conſul-general, of whom the merchants had frequently to complain, forgetting the origin of his inſtitution, and fancying himſelf governor general or ambaſſador, lived there in much hauteur and pomp. I was really ſhocked at being a witneſs of a bargain concluded by a conſul for the hire of a houſe; the annual price of this rent, ruinous to trade, was ſettled at eleven hundred Turkiſh piaſtres, that is, near twenty-ſeven thouſand livres. It was certainly neceſſary, that the other

other parts of the expenſe ſhould agree with that of the houſe, and one may judge how ſuch eſtabliſhments, regulated on baſes ſo defective, became burdenſome to the State, without being more uſeful to commerce. This ſtyle of grandeur, which frequently bordered on an unbecoming hauteur, even reached the very counting-houſes of the traders, and one was aſtoniſhed to find among ſimple factors or brokers lofty and pompous pretenſions. This ſpirit, by no means compatible with that of traffic, continued always increaſing, without commercial operations following the ſame progreſſion; but it muſt be admitted, that if the obſerver had to lament this falſe direction of the agents of commerce, the man, a ſtranger to theſe ſerious reflections, found in the aſſemblage of Europeans ſettled at SMYRNA the charms of good company, and the pleaſures which opulence finds means to fix in every country on earth.

A line of conduct more ſerious, but at the ſame time better directed towards a great object of utility, was followed at SMYRNA by the merchants of ſome other nations of EUROPE. What I have ſaid on that ſubject indifferent places of this work, and particularly in Chapter XXXV, is confirmed by the obſervations

of a man of great merit, and who, having viſited the LEVANT as a ſtateſman, and lived in TURKEY as ambaſſador from FRANCE, has been better enabled than any one to collect valuable information reſpecting our ancient TURKEY trade. What M. DE CHOISEUL-GOUFFIER has written on that of SMYRNA is ſo important, and his authority comes in ſuch a manner to the ſupport of my ideas on this ſubject, that I can do no better than report the paſſage in which he ſpeaks of it in his "*VOYAGE PITTORESQUE DE LA GRE'CE.*

"Were we to judge," ſays M. DE CHOISEUL, *tom.* 1. *page* 203, "of the diſtribution of "the trade of SMYRNA, by the number of "merchants of each nation, FRANCE would, "for a long time paſt, have appeared much "more powerful than ſhe then was in reality, "ſince ſhe had twenty-five houſes, while the "Engliſh had but ſix, and the Dutch four. "She carried on, however, but the third of "the trade, and made up, by the number "of her agents, for what might be wan-"ting, in other reſpects, to their exiſtence. "Foreigners, and eſpecially the Dutch, come "into the LEVANT with conſiderable capitals, "there form ſubſtantial eſtabliſhments, and

"being

"being already rich, ſee, by the credit which "their opulence inſures them, the means of "enriching themſelves alſo increaſe in all ſorts "of buſineſs: they themſelves direct the pro- "ceedings of their conſul, are at his ſide, "and not in his ſuite. The Frenchman, "on the contrary, a ſimple broker, does "buſineſs only for the MARSEILLES mer- "chant, whoſe manager he is, ſhares with "him all the duties of commiſſion, and ſome- "times may complain of the conſul, who "thinks that every one ought to obey him "blindly: aſpiring only to the poſſeſſion of "a peculium, which may allow him to return "to his own country, this Frenchman haſtens "the end of his exile, by every means that "the moſt conſtant economy can afford, "and renounces that kind of conſequence "which is always obtained by the appearance "of wealth."

Nothing leſs is required than the beautiful climate of SMYRNA, its delightful and important ſituation, the freedom which is there enjoyed, and the opulence of its commerce, to induce men to fix themſelves on a ſoil which is agitated and overthrown by frequent ſhocks. Violent earthquakes are there often felt; the ground opens in ſeveral places; noiſes

noiſes formed by vaſt cavities, terrify the inhabitants, while their ſhaken houſes fall and bury them under their ruins. Theſe ſcenes of diſorder and deſolation are frequently renewed, and fires, the inevitable conſequences of the overthrow of a populous town, likewiſe add to their horror, and conſume, with frightful rapidity, whole quarters, half laid in ruins by terrible commotions.

To theſe great diſaſters, the idea of which, to any one who is acquainted with the LEVANT, is inſeparable from that of SMYRNA, are alſo added, every year, the ravages of the plague. The Europeans then condemn themſelves to a ſalutary impriſonment; while, on all ſides, men fall ſtruck by this frightful diſorder, and their dead bodies heaped up, atteſt the criminal and ſtupid want of foreſight of the government, ſtill more than the violence of the contagion.

CHAPTER

CHAPTER XXXVIII.

Obſervations on the plague.—Route by land from Foglieri *to* Smyrna.—*Ravages of graſshoppers.*—Foglieri.—*Iſland of* Mitylene.—*Its capital town; its harbours; its advantages.* — Muſco-niſi *Iſlands.* — *Iſland of* Lemnos.—Agio-Strati.—Tenedos. — *Strait of the* Dardanelles.—Imbros.—Samandraki. *Iſland of* Taſſo.—*Its mines; its fertility; its wines; its woods.* — La Cavale. — Conteſſa. — *Mount* Athos. — *Arrival at* Salonica.

IN the preceding chapter, I have ſpoken of the plague, a deſtructive and permanent ſcourge in TURKEY, participating with earthquakes in the ruin and deſolation of the flouriſhing town of SMYRNA. Its diſaſtrous effects, which ſcarcely fail to be renewed every year, have not always the ſame intenſeneſs, nor the ſame violence. The year 1778 was one of the moſt remarkable for its ravages: at CONSTANTINOPLE, there died to the

the number of two thouſand people in a day. What frightful rapidity of deſtruction! And what ſtupid reſignation on the part of men, who, for centuries paſt, ſuffer themſelves to be mowed down by the ſcythe of contagion, without ſeeking the means of preſerving themſelves from it!

Phyſic has as yet diſcovered no certain remedies for the plague, and the recipes which are found in books are by no means effectual. It is difficult and very dangerous to indulge in obſervations on a diſeaſe which is communicated with a frightful promptitude, and every phyſician has not the courage, or, to ſpeak more correctly, the madneſs of that Ruſſian ſurgeon, priſoner at CONSTANTINOPLE with a number of his countrymen, who took it into his head to inoculate theſe unfortunate beings with the plague, in order to render the contagion leſs deſtructive: by this means he killed two hundred of theſe priſoners; and, fortunately for the reſt, the inoculator, after having performed the operation on himſelf, died of his own treatment. By collecting remarks already ſomewhat numerous on the ſubject of this diſeaſe, we ſhall ſucceed in aſcertaining its nature, and ſhortly in delivering from it the human race. It

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is for the purpoſe of contributing, as far as lies in my power, to an object ſo deſirable, that I am going to add a few notions to thoſe which I have already mentioned in Chapter XI. relative to the plague, which I have frequently had an opportunity of ſeeing very near at hand, and to which I have been more than once expoſed.

Some French phyſicians have improperly reproved M. SAMOÏLOWITZ, a celebrated Ruſſian phyſician, and author of a very good Memoir on the plague, printed in 1783*, for having advanced that this diſeaſe exiſts neither in the air, nor is communicated by the air, but by contact alone. Notwithſtanding all the arguments of theſe phyſicians, and the contrary obſervations of a M. PARIS, which they quote †, the aſſertion of Doctor SAMOÏLOWITZ is inconteſtably true. Although a perſon lives in a place infected with the plague, he will never catch it, unleſs he communicate immediately with perſons who are attacked by it, or if he touch not ſubſtances which are infected and calculated to ſerve it as conductors. Indeed, with-

* See the *Gazette Salutaire* of the 18th of March, 1784.
† Octavo, Paris, Leclerc, 1783.

out

out mentioning the opinion generally ſpread in the LEVANT on this ſubject, it is ſufficient for the Europeans ſettled in TURKEY, to ſhut themſelves up and inſulate themſelves in their houſes, in order to be preſerved from the contagion, even when it makes the greateſt ravages in towns which they inhabit, and though they draw, from without, their proviſions and their daily food, frequently purchaſed at the dwelling of peſtiferous perſons.

And what proves ſtill more that immediate contact can alone communicate the plague, is, that it happens that a portion of clothing may be ſufficiently impregnated with peſtilential miaſmata for tranſmitting the contagion to thoſe who touch it, while it has no effect on him who wears it.

All animal ſubſtances, whether they have preſerved their primitive ſtate, or have been faſhioned by the hand of men, are vehicles of the plague; cotton, flax, hemp, and the cloths which are manufactured of them, are equally ſo: paper even has this fatal property; and, happening to be under quarantine at MALTA, I was witneſs of the alarm which was there ſpread by a piece of paper which the wind carried over the gates of the Lazaretto, and which had fallen in the midſt

of ſeveral perſons. Eatables in general, and metals, are not conductors of the contagion: one may with impunity receive from the hand of a peſtiferous perſon a piece of money, or any other ſpecies of metal, alſo herbage, fiſh, bread, &c. It is nevertheleſs aſſerted, that bread very hot may communicate the diſeaſe, whereas cold bread does not give it.

The actual diſpoſitions of the conſtitution decide on the more or leſs facility of catching the plague. Several perſons touch with impunity thoſe infected without any precaution; and, after having braved the danger for ſeveral years, theſe ſame perſons find themſelves ſometimes attacked the firſt, and ſink under the diſeaſe.

If there be reaſon to ſuſpect that, at the moment when a perſon falls ill, the plague is the cauſe of his illneſs, there is, for aſcertaining it, a method which is conſidered as infallible in the LEVANT; this is to make the patient take ſome brandy, or conſerve of roſes, which occaſions it to ſhew itſelf immediately. The ſame property is attributed to garlic.

It is reckoned certain that the beſt regimen to be obſerved, when one is attacked by the plague, is to live only on meat or fiſh ſalted.

All

All other food is pernicious, and fruit, of whatever ſpecies it may be, is mortal. A man, who had had an opportunity of making a great number of obſervations, during a long ſtay at CONSTANTINOPLE, where he was chaplain of the *hoſpice* of the Franks, had remarked a ſymptom, according to which he decided immediately whether a peſtiferous perſon was to periſh or eſcape: he was never miſtaken in his prognoſtics. He had diſcovered, that when the bubo is far from adherent, and ſhakes on its baſe, well-founded hopes may be conceived; and that, on the contrary, if the bubo be abſolutely fixed and immoveable, there is no hope of avoiding death. This ſame obſerver had alſo remarked, that if a patient, after an acceſs of delirium, ſuddenly recovered his ſenſes, he ſeldom got the better.

It is almoſt always in the groin and armpits that the peſtilential bubo comes. Frequently ſeveral of them make their appearance. Sometimes is ſeen, independently of the bubo, a boil-like tumour; the complaint is then much more dangerous: but if a perſon recovers from it, he is in the ſequel leſs expoſed to the contagion. Beſides the bubo and the boil, ſome perſons have likewiſe a

ſort of furuncle, which is called *phimas*, and which differs from the boil-like tumour by its not becoming black. Thoſe who are attacked by it run a more imminent danger; but if they have the good fortune not to ſink under the diſeaſe, they have abſolutely nothing more to fear from the plague, during the remainder of their life.

Although a perſon has been attacked by this terrible diſorder, he is not, on that account, ſecure from catching it again. One may be afflicted by it repeatedly; and this obſervation appears by no means favourable to the project of inoculation which has been brought forward by ſome perſons. I knew a man who had had the plague ſeven times; but an obſervation very ſingular, and never theleſs certain, is that when a perſon has been once attacked, and he happens to be again, even a long time after, in a place where it reigns, he feels dull pains, pinchings, ſhootings, in the place where the bubo was. Theſe ſymptoms are even a mean of announcing the approaching invaſion of the diſeaſe. There have been ſeen people who, being in places where no ſign of the plague was perceived, complained of theſe ſhooting pains, and, ere long,

long, ſymptoms of the contagion made their appearance.

The direction and ſtrength of the winds contribute to increaſe or diminiſh the activity of the plague. It is when the north-eaſt wind blows that it exerciſes the greateſt ravages at CONSTANTINOPLE. In this ſame city, a frightful ſtorm has been known to ſtop ſuddenly the effects of the contagion.

This ſmall number of obſervations, to which I might have added others more known, does not appear to me favourable to the ſyſtem of ſome modern men of ſcience who have attributed the plague to inſects, as the cauſe of the itch, and of the other diſorders of the ſkin, has been imagined to be found in little animals of the ſame claſs. I do not, however, aſſert that this opinion, founded on certain affinities, ought to be abſolutely rejected; but it deſerves to be examined with attention: it would, were it confirmed, put us in the direct road for obtaining the cure of the diſorder the moſt active and the moſt cruel by which human nature is afflicted.

To the fear of the plague am I indebted for the advantage of having travelled along the north coaſt of the Gulf of SMYRNA, as I had for the moſt part followed that which

is oppoſite to it. After the engagement of the *Mignonne* frigate in the harbour of Milo, I no longer quitted that ſhip, as I have before ſaid, during the courſe of her cruiſe in the ſea of the Levant. The plague had broken out in ſeveral places, and every one dreaded to land there. However, the ſtate of war in which we were, required information that we could obtain only from our conſuls. In order to reach thoſe agents, in the inſulated ſituation to which Prudence had condemned them, it was neceſſary to traverſe the centre of the contagion. I was charged with this miſſion, as more familiarized with the Turks and the dangers with which they have ſuffered themſelves to be ſurrounded, and at the ſame time as being more habituated to the precautions which dangers of this ſort require. I had already been landed at Scio, where the plague reigned, and I thought for a moment that I ſhould be the victim of my good will. In proceeding to the houſe of our vice-conſul, whatever precaution I took to touch no one, a Turkiſh ſoldier, who was running very faſt, puſhed againſt me at the turning of a ſtreet. I own that I could not help feeling ſome inquietude, which

which I took good care not to communicate, but which was ſoon diſpelled.

The frigate waited for me under ſail in the channel of Scio: it was of much importance that ſhe ſhould repair to Smyrna, but the plague was there exerciſing its terrible influence with greater malignity than at Scio. D'Entrecasteaux reſolved to anchor at *Foglieri*, and begged me to go by land to confer with the French conſul-general at Smyrna. My firman ſmoothened every difficulty. I ſoon procured horſes, and I haſtened to proceed to Smyrna, which was diſtant twelve leagues: although I had ſet out rather late, I arrived there before night. Nothing leſs than the importance of my miſſion was neceſſary to determine the conſul to admit into his houſe a man who had juſt croſſed the fields, and the half of a large town, infected by the plague. I had left my horſes and their guide without the walls of Smyrna: I rejoined them the next morning early, and returned with the ſame diligence to Foglieri. Almoſt all the plain which I traverſed was in a ſtate of culture; it had been covered by rich crops, but of theſe there no longer exiſted any thing but the remains. Innumerable legions of graſs-

hoppers, the formidable agents of famine, had lighted on them; the ears had been cut by their ſharp-edged jaws; the ſtraw even, hacked to pieces, announced confuſion and complete devaſtation. The waters of the little river of *Sarabat*, and of ſome rivulets which diſcharge themſelves into the ſea, along this coaſt, had diſappeared under a thick cruſt of dead bodies of graſshoppers heaped up, and the infection which they ſpread corrupted the air, and threatened to add freſh cauſe of mortality to thoſe with which the plague deſolated that beautiful country.

On the Cape of Asia Minor, which forms, with that of *Karabouroun* or *Black Cape*, the ſpacious and deep roadſtead, known under the name of the *Gulf of Smyrna*, two places likewiſe bear the name of *Foglieri*: the one is called *New Foglieri*; and the other, *Old Foglieri*. This is the ancient country of the Phoceans, a celebrated people of ancient Greece. Some ſmall iſlands, which lie in front of New Foglieri, afford them and the continent a very good anchorage, fit for the reception of the largeſt ſhips.

Thence we proceeded to Mitylene, one of the moſt conſiderable iſlands of that ſea, and which is no more than four leagues diſtant

tant from the continent. The name of METELIN, ſometimes given to it at this day, is corrupted from the more ancient one of *MITYLENE*, which ſucceeded the name of *LESBOS*, under which this iſland formerly acquired great celebrity. Its domination extended over TROAS and ÆOLIS. But what did it more honour than its power, was to have been the cradle of illuſtrious perſonages, who conſtituted its glory and that of GREECE. One of the benefactors of human nature, who delivered his country from the yoke of tyranny, PITTACUS, of the ſmall number of the ſages of GREECE, was born at LESBOS. The poet ALCÆUS there compoſed his verſes; PHRYNIS, the melodious airs, with which he made his lyre reſound; THEOPHRASTUS, his commentaries; and feeling and love-ſtruck hearts drop a tear to the memory of the beautiful and ingenious SAPPHO.

The modern town of MITYLENE is built on the ruins of the ancient city of that name, and its environs ſtill afford ſome very beautiful remains of its magnificence. The harbour is ſmall and bad; but the iſland has others, the two beſt of which are Port *SIGRI* and Port *OLIVIER*. The former is at the weſt extremity of the iſland; and the latter, which

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is the more frequented, is formed by a gulf that is behind and at a little diſtance from the town of MITYLENE. Its entrance is long and narrow; but the anchorage there is good and commodious.

The poſition of the Iſland of MITYLENE, in the vicinity of a great extent of the coaſt of NATOLIA, which it ſeems to command, placed at an equal diſtance from the Gulf of SMYRNA and the channel of CONSTANTINOPLE, not far from the principal Iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO, renders its poſſeſſion extremely important, as its interior reſources render it ſuſceptible of the moſt flouriſhing ſtate. But it is in the hands of the Turks: this is announcing ſufficiently that the advantages of its ſituation are loſt, and that, from day to day, population, agriculture, and all induſtry, are diminiſhing and falling into decay.

In the channel formed by the Iſland of MITYLENE and the coaſt, at the entrance of the Gulf of *ADRAMITI*, ſome ſmall iſlands, which the Greeks call *MUSCONISI*; and our navigators, *MYSCONISSES*, formerly bore the name of *HECATONES*. They are, as well as the large Iſland of MITYLENE, very fertile, principally in wines and oil; but this genenoſity

roſity of Nature is there powerfully counteracted by the preſent rulers.

We ſet ſail, after a very ſhort ſtay on the coaſt of MITYLENE; we doubled Cape *BABA*, or *CABA*, formerly *LECTUM PROMONTORIUM*; and as our miſſion was to cruiſe in theſe ſeas, we kept under eaſy ſail between the Iſland of *LEMNOS* and that of *TENEDOS*. The former, larger and farther diſtant from the coaſt, was conſecrated to VULCAN in the time of HOMER, probably on account of two volcanoes, which were here continually caſting forth flames, and which were conſidered as the forges of the huſband of VENUS. There no longer remain any veſtiges of theſe volcanoes: however, interior fires are ſtill burning here; for we here meet with a ſpring of hot water, which has been brought to ſupply baths, and another of aluminous water. This iſland is hilly, but extremely fertile; it yields corn, cotton, oil, and ſilk, with which a few light ſtuffs are manufactured.

The ſpecies of bole which bears the name of Lemnian earth, and to which were attributed imaginary virtues, is ſtill drawn from a hill of the iſland. To be flouriſhing, LEMNOS wants only to be delivered from its oppreſſors. Nature has done every thing for it

it, and one laments the ſtate of languor and wretchedneſs to which its deſtiny has reduced it. Its inhabitants were formerly much given to navigation, or, to ſpeak more correctly, to the carrying-trade; they are ſtill trading mariners, becauſe this kind of induſtry eſcapes more eaſily the cupidity of tyrants, than affluence produced by agriculture or by a ſedentary traffic. I there ſaw ſome extremely beautiful women, who were very far from inſpiring the ſame diſguſt as the men had conceived of their grand-mothers, on account of their bad ſmell; if, however, this fact, quoted in a book of the wonders of nature*, have any reality.

All the eaſt coaſt of LEMNOS is inacceſſible on account of a ſhoal, which extends four leagues into the offing; the weſt coaſt affords to ſhips a few places of ſhelter againſt northerly winds. To the north, is a large road; but there are no real harbours except in the ſouth part, where are to be found two, which are at no great diſtance from each other; Port *CADIA*, and Port *SANT ANTONIO*.

To the ſouth of LEMNOS, is a ſmall iſland of little importance, which the modern Greeks

* ANTIGONUS, *de Naturæ Mirabilibus*.

call

call *Agio-Strati*; and our navigators, *Saint Estrate*: the ancients called it *Hiera*.

The poſſeſſion of the Iſland of Tenedos, which is ſituated near the mouth of the channel of the Dardanelles, might alone involve the loſs of Constantinople: from this point would be formed the blockade of that great city, with the more facility, as the channel between the continent and Tenedos is, correctly ſpeaking, only a large roadſtead, where ſhips may lie at anchor, ready to get under ſail, and ſtop thoſe which ſhould attempt to penetrate into the Strait of the Dardanelles. But the Ottoman government, incapable of feeling the importance of this advantageous port, ſeems to watch it with ſtill greater negligence than other places whoſe preſervation would be leſs uſeful. The wines of Tenedos are almoſt the ſole trade of the iſland: here are made muſcadine wines, which are not inferior to thoſe of Samos.

We ſtood in and anchored under Cape *Greco*, at the entrance of the channel of the Dardanelles, oppoſite to Cape Yenihisari, beyond which is the plain where Troy formerly exiſted. I ſhall not ſpeak of this famous ſtrait which makes the ſeparation

between EUROPE and ASIA, nor of the city of CONSTANTINOPLE: the little time that I was able to allot to viſiting them, allowed me not to make many remarks, and I prefer ſaying nothing about them to repeating what has been written.

On leaving the new caſtles of the DARDANELLES, whoſe conſtruction, by no means formidable, is due to M. DE TOTT, the *MIGNONNE* directed her courſe towards the Iſland of *TASSO*. We paſſed near the point of the Iſland of *IMBROS*, which, as well as TENEDOS and SAMOS, has retained its ancient name, which navigators have transformed into that of *LEMBRO*. It is from eight to ten leagues in circumference, and contains fertile vallies, and mountains covered with wood.

A league to the north of *IMBROS* is the Iſland of *SAMANDRAKI*, or *MANDRAKI*, which is but eight leagues in circumference. This is the *SAMOS OF THRACE*, or, in a ſingle word, the *SAMOTHRACE* of the ancients. PLINY calls it *SAMOTHRACIA LIBRA*; but this liberty has vaniſhed with the greater part of the advantages which it holds from nature, and which the induſtry of its ancient inhabitants knew, or might have known, how to turn to account.

Towards the weſt extremity of MACEDONIA, and two leagues from the continent, the Iſland of *TASSO*, which the French call *LE TASSE*, ſhews at a diſtance its high mountains covered with foreſts. The channel, which ſeparates that iſland from the main land, is alſo divided by a ſteril iſlet called *LITTLE TASSO*, and in Greek *TASSO-POULO*, the veſtige of an ancient continuity of lands, at preſent ſeparated. A ſpacious road, where the ground is good for holding, lies between the two iſlands. Here we anchored.

TASSO is the moſt northern of the Iſlands of the ARCHIPELAGO; it was one of the moſt famous on account of its rich gold mines: HERODOTUS ſpeaks of them, and they were under the direction of THUCYDIDES. No traces are now to be ſeen of that opulence of nature; not that it is exhauſted, but it is alike buried by ignorance, fear, and tyranny. Theſe mines procured the iſland the Greek name *CHRYSE*, which ſignifies of *gold*, or *gilt*: its riches had become proverbial, and the expreſſion was a *thaſos of wealth*. Neither are here now to be found opals, amethyſts, and the other precious ſtones, which, with the gold mines, compoſed its natural treaſures; but here is met

met with that beautiful marble, held in ſuch eſtimation by the Romans, whoſe whiteneſs vies with ſnow, and the fineneſs of whoſe grain with that of Parian marble. The greater part of the mountains are ſtill formed of this marble, which ſhews itſelf even on their ſurface; and it is worthy of remark, that the two Iſlands of GREECE which contain the moſt valuable marbles, were inhabited by the ſame people: it was the inhabitants of PAROS who peopled the Iſland of TASSO, and there built the town of *THASOS*, which was its capital, and the veſtiges of which are ſtill to be ſeen.

The iſland is near thirty leagues in circumference: it produces a great deal of corn, oil, wax, &c. but its fertility, extolled by the ancients, is no longer turned to account, for want of encouragement and culture. Its wines, formerly very famous even in the time of the Lower Empire, ſince JOHN CHRYSOSTOM exclaimed againſt the exceſſes to which they gave riſe at CONSTANTINOPLE; its wines, I ſay, no longer have the excellent qualities which cauſed them to be in requeſt at a high price. Its population has experienced the ſame fate as

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the productions of its ſoil; it is conſiderably diminiſhed.

TASSO has ſtill remaining a ſort of wealth very important to a trading and maritime nation: this is capital wood for ſhip-building. The fineſt trees grow on the ſummit and declivity of the mountains; but the inconſiderate manner of felling them will ſoon have exhauſted theſe reſources of vegetation, more valuable than the mines of gold.

Oppoſite to the northern point of the Iſland of TASSO, Cape *ASPEROSA* forms a bight, in which is, to the weſt, *LA CAVALE*, a ſmall town built on a rock that projects into the ſea, and which has ſome reſemblance to a horſe. This reſemblance has procured it the name which it bears; at leaſt, this is an etymology more ſimple than that which derives its modern name from *BUCEPHALA*, which the ſame place formerly bore, on account of the town that ALEXANDER cauſed to be built there in honour of *BUCEPHALUS*, the conqueror's famous ſteed.

LA CAVALE was for a long time in poſſeſſion of the Genoeſe and Venetians; it was become of late years a very active point of the LEVANT trade: its harbour, although not very ſafe, was frequented by ſhips which

came to load there with corn, tobacco, and other commodities.

The Iſland of TASSO is ſituated at the entrance of a rather extenſive gulf, which is called the *GULF OF CONTESSA*, becauſe a town of that name was built at the head of it. Our navigators alſo call this bight *GOLFE DE RHONDINE*, from the corrupted name of the ancient town of *RHEDINE*; but the Greeks deſignate it under the name of *ORFANO*: this is the *SINUS STRYMONICUS* of the ancients.

From TASSO we made ſail towards *MONTE SANCTO*, at the foot of which we paſſed. Under this name, as well as under that of *AGIOSOROS*, which the Greeks give to this mountain, and which has the ſame ſignification, we have ſome difficulty to recogniſe the famous mountain whoſe ſummit is loſt in the clouds, and which, if we muſt believe the ancients, projects its ſhade as far as the Iſland of MITYLENE, and, according to BE'LON, an eye-witneſs, only as far as the harbour of the Iſle of LEMNOS, that is, to the diſtance of eight leagues*. Mount ATHOS, forming an advanced promontory of

* *Obſervations*, &c.

MACEDONIA,

MACEDONIA, which XERXES, king of PERSIA, ſeparated from the continent by a long ſtrait, and which DINOCRATES, the architect of ALEXANDRIA of EGYPT, wiſhed to conſecrate to the perpetuating of the memory of ALEXANDER, by making of this mountain an enormous ſtatue, whoſe ſmalleſt features would have been ſeveral toiſes in length, is a place revered by the modern Greeks. Millions of monks, an ignorant and fanatic race, occupy it at preſent: there are few of them who can read, although they have a tolerably good number of Greek books, among which it would be no eaſy matter to find ſome that might deſerve to be opened; they conſiſt of works of theology and controverſy.

Continuing to ſail towards the weſt, we croſſed the entrance of the gulf which alſo bears the name of *MONTE SANCTO*, and which the ancients called *SINUS SINGITICUS*. We doubled Cape *DREPANO*, formerly *DERRIS PROMONTORIUM*, forming with Cape *PAILLOURI*, *CANASTRACUM PROMONTORIUM* of the ancients, another gulf, which had formerly the name of *TORONAICUS SINUS*, and which is at preſent called the Gulf of *CASSANDRA*,

SANDRA, on account of a small island which is at its extremity, and which is thus designated. We then entered the deep Gulf of SALONICA, and cast anchor in the harbour of that great city.

CHAPTER

CHAPTER XXXIX.

Town of Salonica.—*Terrible fire of which the author was witneſs.—Trade of* Salonica.—*Diſorders which are there experienced.—Plains of the environs of* Salonica.—*Excurſion to Mount* Olympus.—*The author transforms himſelf into a phyſician.—Companion in his journey.—He croſſes the gulf.—He lands, or rather is almoſt caſt away, on the weſt coaſt of the gulf.*—Vroumeri.—*Conſtruction of the rural habitations.—Dogs which are the formidable keepers of them.—Papas-governor.—Patients to whom medical treatment was neceſſary.—Fields of the environs of* Vroumeri.—*Storks.—Aga of* Katherinn.—Skala—*Albanian ſoldiers by whom the Author was accompanied.—Trees of the foreſts of* Olympus.—*Troop of Albanian robbers.—Portrait of their chief.—Monaſtery of St.* Dennis.—*Efforts of the author for reaching the ſummit of the mountain.—Snow which is there found.—Extent of the proſpect.—Secret for curing the fever. Animals of* Olympus.—*Return to* Salonica.

THE latitude of the town of SALONICA is 40° 41′ 10″, and its longitude 20° 48,′ from

the meridian of PARIS. It is built almoſt at the head, and on the eaſt coaſt of a gulf that bears its name, the entrance of which is nine leagues in width, and the bight runs inland upwards of twenty leagues. The road, which begins at two capes, called *GREAT* and *LITTLE BOURNOU*, and terminates at a ſhoal which is ſituated at the very head of the gulf, affords good anchorages to ſhips of every ſize, and a ſafe retreat to fleets.

Its name has not changed for ages; it is only abridged, and is not difficult to be recogniſed, in the preſent town of SALONICA or *SALONIKI*, the ancient and celebrated THESSALONICA, founded, it is ſaid, by the ſiſter of ALEXANDER, on the ſite of a more ancient city, which was called *THERMA*. It is alſo the capital of MACEDONIA, and one of the largeſt and moſt populous towns of the Turkiſh empire. Here are ſtill to be ſeen pieces of ancient monuments; and every where fragments of edifices, profaned by their mixture with common materials in modern buildings. The church of ST. SOPHIA, conſtructed by JUSTINIAN on the model of that of CONSTANTINOPLE, is converted into a moſque, like ſome other churches of

of the Lower Empire. Here is alſo a caſtle of the ſeven towers, as in the capital.

The aſpect of SALONICA, from the harbour, announces an agreeable encloſure; but when you enter it, you preſently relinquiſh the good opinion which you had conceived of it: ſtreets narrow and ill paved, as well as crooked, houſes ſlovenly on the outſide, and, in the inſide, worſe laid out, together with a miſerable population, induce the wiſh of ſeeing it only at a diſtance. It is, nevertheleſs, one of the fineſt towns of TURKEY, and one of the moſt important, from its poſition and the richneſs of its trade. It is alſo the ſeat of one of the firſt governments of the empire.

Very ſhortly after our arrival, we were witneſſes of a fire which had like to have reduced the town to aſhes. The fire broke out during the night in a quarter where the Jews, crowded together, live in the moſt diſguſting filthineſs, and eaten up by diſorders engendered by corruption. The conſtruction of their houſes, almoſt all of wood, the want of police, and aſſiſtance neceſſary for ſtopping the progreſs of the flames, allowed them to diſplay a terrible activity, and in a few moments the whole quarter was burnt. The light of this furious conflagration ſpread

itſelf over the ſea; and although the *Mignonne* was anchored at a ſomewhat great diſtance from the coaſt, on board her we ſaw clear enough to read on deck. The wind brought on the water a prodigious quantity of ſparks, which fell ſufficiently near the ſhip to occaſion uneaſineſs, and cauſe every preparation to be made for getting under ſail. Furniture, bales, already reached by the fire, were conveyed, in hopes of ſaving them, to the quarters the moſt diſtant from it, and there became the focus of freſh blazes, which were not extinguiſhed without difficulty. But it was not poſſible to ſtop the ravages of the fire in the quarter of the Jews; four or five hundred houſes were the prey of the flames, and to the frightful ſpectacle of their combuſtion, were added the cries which deſpair forced from its victims, the confuſed clamour of a militia, better calculated for increaſing diſorder than diminiſhing it, and the grave and mournful ſound of a few pieces of cannon, fired from time to time as ſignals of alarm—every thing concurred to make this night, a night of fright and horror.

Conſidered as a fortified town, SALONICA is of no importance; an encloſure of ramparts, without ditches and ill kept, ſtill worſe defended

defended by a very ſmall number of bad pieces of artillery, render it ſuſceptible of only a feeble reſiſtance; and the undiſciplined troops which form its garriſon, are incapable of making amends, by their courage and ſkill in tactics, for this want of fortifications. But if this city, as a ſtrong hold, is not at all intereſting, yet it is extremely ſo from the trade of which it is the centre, and which, under another government, would become ſtill more flouriſhing.

Situated in one of the fineſt countries of TURKEY in EUROPE, it is the emporium of a very conſiderable commerce. Here is ſhipped a great deal of cotton, gathered chiefly in the rich and extenſive plains by which the town of *SERES*, the ancient *SERRÆ*, is ſurrounded, and its brilliant culture gives to the market of this city an extraordinary briſkneſs. Here too, veſſels take in a great quantity of highly-eſteemed tobacco, grain gathered in fields of admirable fecundity, very beautiful wool, ſilk, and the floſs that comes from it, together with wax, honey, &c. &c. What a fruitful ſource of proſperity! What a vaſt field of induſtry! The one requires only to be freed from the obſtacles which ſtop its courſe,

courſe, and the other claims a population leſs ſcanty and leſs enſlaved.

SALONICA is not always an abode ſo healthy as we ſhould have reaſon to expect, from the beautiful ſky under which that town is ſituated, and from its charming poſition. The plague, the formidable offspring of the improvidence of the Turks, and which neither depends on the temperature nor on the nature of the atmoſphere, frequently makes cruel attacks on its population. But the accidental inſalubrity of the air occaſions fevers, which come in autumn to ſecond the plague in its terrible ravages, and this inſalubrity is alſo the work of an adminiſtration which, not confining itſelf to afford protection, has contrived to vie with the moſt violent diſorders in the frightful prerogative of deſtroying mankind. Stagnant waters have been accumulated between the town and the little river *VERDARI*, which the Turks call *VERDAC*, and which diſcharges itſelf into the head of the gulf: from theſe marſhes, the formation of which it would have been eaſy to prevent, and which might as eaſily be drained, emanate numerous germs of corruption to the atmoſphere of SALONICA, and of death to its inhabitants.

I employed

I employed the time of our ſtay in frequent excurſions to the plains which extend to the north of SALONICA, and I preferred theſe walks in the domain of Nature, to the monotony of a town, which, like all the towns of TURKEY, is, truly ſpeaking, only the domain of diſorder, tumult, and *ennui*. Every morning the frigate's boat landed me at the head of the gulf, and I paſſed days in viſiting the beautiful plain which extends as far as SERES. Shooting, eſpecially at birds, among which pheaſants are not ſcarce, rendered my walks very agreeable; they were a neceſſary diſtraction to the chagrin which I felt in croſſing diſtricts, deſtined by nature for the moſt brilliant fertility, and nevertheleſs uncultivated or neglected; afflicting ſymptoms of diſcouragement and deſpotiſm. I prolonged my walks till it was dark, but the neceſſity of returning on board every evening, prevented me from extending them as far as I could have wiſhed.

Our ſtay ſoon became ſtationary. Various advices induced D'ENTRECASTEAUX to remain yet ſome time in the harbour of SALONICA; I reſolved, in my turn, to avail myſelf of this interval, in order to make a journey into ancient MACEDONIA. Mount

OLYMPUS,

OLYMPUS, on the top of which the warm imagination of the Greeks had fixed the abode of the gods, preſented to our view, on the oppoſite ſide of the gulf, its lofty and rounded ſummit. The wiſh of aſcending that celebrated mountain, took poſſeſſion of my mind, and I haſtened to carry my project into execution, but when I communicated it to the French merchants and conſul ſettled at SALONICA, with a view of obtaining ſome information, they concurred in diſſuading me from it. The Albanians, who have inherited the bravery of the Macedonians, but who tarniſh it by the exerciſe of terrible robberies, had revolted; they no longer acknowledged the authority of the Grand Signior, nor conſequently that of the pacha of CONSTANTINOPLE, whom they conſidered as an odious enemy, becauſe he had recently marched againſt them with a part of his forces, and had in vain attempted to reduce them. The hatred of theſe people againſt the Turks of SALONICA extended to the very inhabitants of the ſame city; the Franks ſhared of this enmity; in ſhort, to expoſe myſelf in countries inhabited by hordes of courageous and cruel people, united under the authority of princes, real chiefs of robbers,

bers, was to give myself up to a certain death. This was all the information that I could collect, and certainly it was not of a nature to be very useful to me. The marks of interest which I received on this occasion from my countrymen, penetrated me with gratitude; I thanked them, but at the same time I begged them not to take it amiss, if, however well founded their subjects of fear might seem, I should not the less persist in my resolution.

It was in vain to endeavour to put myself into a state of defence against people disciplined and exercised in the use of arms; a fowling piece was the only weapon that I would take; but I thought of covering myself with a shield, which had been of great service to me when I was travelling in the midst of the barbarous inhabitants of Egypt. Being no longer able, any more than I was in that country, to appear in safety as a military man, in the excursion which I was going to undertake, I resolved to appear there as a physician. It is well known how much the art of ascertaining and curing the disorders of mankind is held in veneration among Orientals, and they grant us a confidence which they refuse to the empirics of their own country,

country, whether they have a higher opinion of our knowledge, or partake with nations more enlightened, the rage of giving the preference to every thing that comes from afar: accordingly the firſt comer may call himſelf a phyſician in thoſe countries, and attract the crowd. But the practice of phyſic by no means reſembles that which is exerciſed among us; diet, regimen, ptiſans, and other remedies which we abuſe, muſt be ſtruck out of the diſpenſary of the Orientals; our perfect reſignation is unknown to them; they wiſh for active remedies and a ſpeedy cure, or, at leaſt, palliatives from which they may feel relief. I ſhall not enlarge more on the ſubject of this ſingular mode of treatment of the Orientals, becauſe I have ſpoken of it very minutely in my TRAVELS IN UPPER AND LOWER EGYPT.

The preparatives of a journey which was to laſt but a few days, were not long, and I was ſoon ready to ſet out. M. DE T——, an officer in the regiment of P——, and commandant of the detachment of that corps ſerving on board of the *MIGNONNE*, wiſhed to accompany me. I repeated to him all that had been told me at SALONICA respecting the inconveniences and dangers of this journey,

journey, and I apprized him that my manner of travelling was neither pleaſant nor convenient, and that he muſt expect ſome difficulties, and, perhaps, a few untoward adventures. M. DE T—— had a cultivated underſtanding and a taſte for knowledge; to theſe he joined a reſolute mind; all that I could ſay did not affect him; he promiſed me not to deviate from what I ſhould have to adviſe him in a country, whoſe manners and cuſtoms were entirely unknown to him: however, full of confidence in my habit of travelling, he had, he ſaid, no uneaſineſs, as to the dangers which had been pointed out to us. We therefore took leave of D'ENTRECASTEAUX, who loaded us with the wiſhes of frank and generous friendſhip, which M. DE T—— ſhared with me, and we landed from the frigate on the 10th of July, 1780, at eight o'clock in the morning.

This was the hour of the appointment on which we had agreed for our departure from SALONICA, with ſome Greeks of that town, owners of a ſmall boat, and with whom we had made a bargain for taking us to the weſt coaſt of the gulf. We waited a long time on the beach, but no mariner appeared. It was a great feſtival among the Greeks, and

they did not content themſelves with celebrating it at church; feaſting was alſo part of the ſolemnity, and our boatmen, of a poor claſs, were celebrating the ſaint at a tavern. We looked for them a long time in quarters inhabited by ſeafaring people; at laſt we were told where they were, and we found them at table, not thinking at all of the excurſion that we were to make. They prevailed on us to return to the beach, whither they would follow us immediately: we remained there the whole day without ſeeing them, and it was not till about eight o'clock in the evening that we were able to find them again; we forced them to come down to their boat, but they were in ſuch a ſtate of ebriety that they could ſcarcely ſtand. After having ſpent the day in ennui and impatience, we concluded by finding ourſelves at night at the mercy of people who, in the ſituation they were in, appeared to me more dangerous than the Albanians. However we made them embark, at the riſk of being all drowned. I had no uneaſineſs as to our paſſage acroſs the gulf; but the landing on the weſt coaſt, which I knew to be obſtructed by ſhoals, preſented to me difficulties, which did not appear to me eaſy to be avoided during the night;

beſides where were we to land on a coaſt with which I was not at all acquainted? I took good care not to communicate theſe reflections to my companion; he entered the boat with much confidence, and we ſet ſail.

We were ſix in all; the two Greeks belonging to the boat, M. DE T—— had taken with him the drummer of his company, and I my young Greek, who had attended me from CANEA. No ſooner was the ſail ſpread than the boatman, charged with the management of it, dropped aſleep, and fell ſprawling at the bottom of the boat; he who ſteered had a great inclination to do the ſame, but I kept him awake as well as it was in my power; not that I placed much confidence in him, but I wiſhed to know the direction that he would take, in order that I might be guided for making the land. When I had found that we were going nearly north-eaſt, I no longer attached the ſame importance to tormenting the ſkipper for the purpoſe of preventing him from ſleeping, if, however, one could conſider as awake, a man ſtaggering drunk. He ſoon availed himſelf of the moments of quiet which I left him, and fell aſleep; I puſhed him, he rolled to the bottom of the boat, and I laid hold of the tiller.

ler. There was a ſwell on the water; M. DE T——, little accuſtomed to its agitation in a boat ſo ſmall as ours, was ſick, and lying at his length, wrapped up in his cloak: my young Greek was lying beſide him, ſicker ſtill, ſo that the bottom of the boat was covered by four perſons, whom different cauſes rendered incapable of movement. I remained alone with the drummer.

Favoured by a good wind, our voyage was fortunate; but, on approaching the coaſt, my embarraſſment became extreme; I heard the agitated waves breaking with noiſe on the beach; and, in the dark, I did not perceive the land. We took in the ſail, in order that we might not be daſhed to pieces, and I induced the drummer to take an oar and row as well as he could. Preſently he called out to me that he touched ground; I ran forward, and having myſelf taken the oar, I ſounded to know what was the nature of the bottom; I found it of fine ſand; for fear of meeting with harder ſubſtances, which would have ſtove the boat, I reſolved to run her on ſhore. I apprized M. DE T—— of my intention, at the ſame time deſiring him to hold himſelf in readineſs to walk through the ſhallow water in

order

order to reach the land. At the moment when we ſtruck the ground a wave came into the boat, and inundated our two drunkards, who thought themſelves loſt; we left them, and we again made a rather long trip, having the water ſometimes up to our middle, before we found ourſelves on dry land.

The day did not yet appear; nothing around us announced the vicinity of habitations, and we reſolved to wait on the beach till we ſhould direct our ſteps with certainty towards ſome village. But we did not remain motionleſs, and we endeavoured to warm ourſelves by continual exerciſe. Preſently the watchful Aurora covered with her gold and purple cloak the arc of the horizon, which, on the eaſt, ſeparates light from darkneſs; the luminary of the day was not long in appearing, and with it, the beautiful country which we had before us. Looking at each other, we could not refrain from burſts of laughter, on ſeeing the pretty pickle in which we were. Our clothes, which we had not choſen of the beſt, were, for the greater part, ſoaked with ſea-water and clinging to us; and the cold, by which we were penetrated, gave to our countenances a painful look, which was perfectly in uniſon with our plight.

It was impoſſible to appear to greater diſadvantage, and we were really very ill-looking phyſicians. Our mariners had contrived to drag their boat, half-ſwamped, into a little creek: ſleep, and ſtill more the ſea, by which they had been ſtruck, had diſſipated their ebriety; they begged us to forgive them for what had happened, and they ceaſed not to congratulate us on having extricated ourſelves ſo well. We left them and proceeded towards a village, built a good half league from the ſea-ſide. It is called *Vroumeri*; its ſituation is agreeable, in a fertile plain, and it is well built.

Different learned ſocieties have ſeveral times propoſed prizes, which were to be adjudged to the plan of conſtruction the moſt ſuitable for rural habitations, the aſſemblage, or rather the huddling together of which, in the greater part of the villages of our countries, and particularly in thoſe of the north-eaſt parts of France, beſides all kinds of inconveniences which are there accumulated, leaves an open range to the ravages of fire, and becomes the abode of filthineſs and diſorders. The queſtion cannot be better ſolved than in the part of Macedonia which I viſited. Independently of the good conſtruction of the houſes, each of thoſe

which

which form a village is inſulated, and ſeparated by a large ſpace, from thoſe that ſtand neareſt. An encloſure, more or leſs ſpacious, and formed by paliſades or quick-ſet hedges, ſurrounds it; this ground is almoſt always cultivated as a fruit or kitchen garden, a ſort of culture which is not to the taſte of the inhabitants of our country-places, and which we cannot too much engage them to adopt as an alimentary reſource that would contribute to maintain them in health.

The aſpect of the villages of MACEDONIA or ALBANIA is very agreeable. The trees which grow there on all ſides, preſent, at a diſtance, the image of a large garden, and the houſes which appear through viſtas, give an idea of buildings for ornament or pleaſure, rather than that of the dwellings of villagers. The air circulates freely between them, and the ſummer heats are tempered by the coolneſs of the orchards by which they are ſhaded. The people who inhabit them announce, by their vigour and robuſt conſtitution, what numerous advantages attend this method of building villages, and how much it were to be wiſhed that it was introduced in our country-places. This is a favour which they claim, and the execution of which pre-

ſents not ſo many difficulties as might be imagined at firſt ſight*; it is worthy of the attention of a repairing government, which is bringing back on the ſoil of FRANCE all ſorts of bleſſings, with a rapidity, almoſt equal to that of the frightful overflow of ills by which ſhe was not long ſince inundated and almoſt ſwallowed up.

Every houſe is intruſted to the care of ſeveral dogs, and they acquit themſelves wonderfully well of this employment. They rove night and day round their dwelling; ſtrangers, who might go out alone, during the night, would infallibly be devoured by them. During the day, they content themſelves with barking and following paſſengers very cloſely, to ſome diſtance from the houſe where they are fed, and they are ſpeedily replaced by others; ſo that in walking in the ſtreets, or, to expreſs myſelf with greater preciſion, in the alleys of the villages, you have continually round you five or ſix of theſe great dogs, whoſe anger inſpires a degree of fear. And indeed it is dangerous to appear there without being accompanied by ſome one

* I propoſe to preſent my views on this ſubject in a particular memoir.

belonging

belonging to the place; not that his preſence hinders the dogs from running out at paſſengers; but, at leaſt, he can keep them off with impunity, when they approach a little too near, and it is for this reaſon that no inhabitant goes out without being armed with a great ſtick.

The dogs of ALBANIA formed a diſtinguiſhed race among the ancients; they have not degenerated, but are ſtill very handſome and of a large ſize; we may add that they are very miſchievous, and this is an affinity which they have to the men who breed them. I found, in fact, in the inhabitants of VROUMERI, though all Greeks, a rude, ſtern, and barbarous look, which I had not yet remarked in the different tribes of the ſame nation that I had viſited. An old papas was the chief of the village; he was a malicious and treacherous man, and I thought that we ſhould not get out of his hands.

On our arrival we waited on this prieſt-governor; I told him that we were phyſicians of high reputation, and that we propoſed to go and gather plants of great virtue which grew on Mount OLYMPUS; I begged him, at the ſame time, to procure us the means of repairing to that mountain; he promiſed us

every thing, but performed nothing; he every moment threw freſh difficulties in my way; and, as he had ſeen that I had removed a few by offering him money, he imagined that for every embarraſſment, real or imaginary, which he might preſent, I ſhould ſtill continue to give him ſome. We were obliged to ſpend the whole day at VROUMERI, but we did not there remain idle. Patients came to conſult us, and we had work enough to anſwer them and point out to them remedies. The firſt patient that we ſaw was a woman upwards of eighty, who for ten years paſt had had the palſy in all her limbs; the papas, to whom ſhe was related, inſiſted that we ſhould cure her.—"A pretty beginning," ſaid M. DE T—— to me, "if we have to treat two or "three patients ſo inveterate and ſo incur-"able, our medical reputation will go to "wreck."—"Take good care," anſwered I, "not to betray the ſlighteſt embarraſſment, "or we ſhall be ruined; nothing muſt ap-"pear impoſſible to us, nor even difficult, "and, by your leave, I ſhall repreſent this "old woman's diſorder as a trifle, which can-"not reſiſt our ſkill." In fact, after having pretended to examine the patient with much attention, I preſcribed and gave remedies which,

which, I ſaid, were ſpeedily to effect a cure; I left, in reality, only a chimerical hope, but the ſentiment of which mitigated, at leaſt for a few days, the fate of this unfortunate woman.

On that day I alſo let blood ſeveral times; M. de T——n held the pallet, and frequently, on ſtanding oppoſite to each other, we were ready to depart from the gravity which we ſtrove to keep, and which was always ready to eſcape us. My companion could not get the better of his aſtoniſhment at ſeeing me operate, anſwer, preſcribe as a real phyſician, and as if I had never followed any other profeſſion. We were treated with the higheſt degree of conſideration, and we paſſed the day and night very quietly in a place where, but for the apparent, yet very diſintereſted ſervices which we rendered, we might have been moleſted. Early the next morning I renewed my entreaties to the papas, in order to have guides. I had acquired ſufficient influence over his mind and over that of his countrymen, to ſpeak with firmneſs; I threatened to complain to the aga, and he at length yielded to my ſolicitations.

We were travelling in one of the moſt beautiful countries in the world, where vegetation

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is brilliant and culture active; uſeful trees there increaſe rural riches, cover the ſoil with the coolneſs of their ſhade, and ſerve as an aſylum to birds of every ſpecies, the ordinary companions of fertility. We there remarked particularly many turtles, jays, and magpies. Storks are common in all this country, eſpecially in the environs of SALONICA, and I found, in a neſt, young ones of that ſpecies, ready to take wing, at the end of the month of June. Theſe birds are to the Turks, and to all the Orientals, ſacred creatures; the houſes on which they build their neſts are conſidered as bleſſed, and ſecure from all accident. It is, no doubt, a very fortunate, and at the ſame time an uncommon circumſtance, when ſuperſtitious ideas turn to the account of the general good; and this ſort of veneration for ſtorks tends to the preſervation of animals, valuable on account of the appetite which leads them to deſtroy ſuch as are noxious: thus it is that the ancient Egyptians had ſucceeded in rendering their country habitable and proſperous, by deifying animals from which an agricultural people may derive the greateſt advantages. To kill ſtorks would be a crime in the EAST; accordingly they are often ſeen walking in troops

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in the midſt of fields ſown and crops, with as much tranquillity as if they had been brought up in a ſtate of domeſticity.

After having, during the morning of the 11th, walked during a violent heat, we arrived, towards noon, at a large village called *Katherinn*, the reſidence of an Albanian Prince, to whom the Greek merchant of Salonica had given me a letter of recommendation. This Prince, who was named *Halil-aga*, had juſt raiſed the ſtandard of revolt; he was much taken up with his warlike preparatives; miſtruſtful, beſides, of the ſnares which the Ottoman court is in the habit of laying for thoſe whom it wiſhes to deſtroy, meaſures of meanneſs and ſymptoms of the weakneſs of the government, he admitted no one. We were not able to ſee him; but he excuſed himſelf in a very polite manner; and when he was apprized of the ſubject of our journey, he ſent us two of his ſoldiers to accompany us to Olympus. We immediately ſet out, and arrived about the middle of the night at a village ſituated on the declivity of the mountain, and which the Greeks call *Skala*, ſcale, becauſe one is already at a tolerable height when one arrives there,

there, and because the acclivity, gentle till then, becomes, above, rugged and steep.

We waited till the day appeared in order to present ourselves at the Greek convent of *Skala*: the monks there gave us a good reception; a bishop happened to be there on his tour. He was better informed than the bishops of the islands and of the continent of Asia are in general. The land of Macedonia or Albania is connected with that where light and knowledge are most diffused, and this point of contact is sufficient, if not to dispel the cloud of ignorance which still covers that country, at least to diminish its thickness. This bishop, whose person was respectable and whose disposition was frank and polite, understood Latin; this was for us a more direct mean of communication.

He related to us how many extortions the monasteries of these countries had to suffer from the Albanians, different parties of whom frequently came to plunder them or lay them under contribution. He recollected the two soldiers who accompanied us, to be of the number of those who, not long since, had committed robberies at the convent of Skala: he represented them to us as two of the most

most determined thieves of the country, and we had already seen enough of them to discover that the good bishop did not deceive us; not that they had endeavoured to steal any thing from us, or to lead us into any ambuscade; but they really had the look of notorious scoundrels, and their discourse perfectly corresponded with the sinister features of their countenance. When we had quitted the plain, in order to begin to ascend OLYMPUS, and had reached the forests which cover it almost entirely, our guides began to relate to us mutually their robbing exploits, of which the woods that we were crossing had been the theatre. — "There," said the one, "I assisted in murdering and plundering "six travellers." — "At the foot of that "tree," resumed the other, "I killed with a "musket-shot a Greek trader, who was carrying money to the convent of SKALA." — "Do you remember," rejoined the first, "those Turks whom we cut in pieces without sabres? We are not far from the "place where we fell in with them."

The conversation of our worthy guides continued nearly in the same style during the whole time that our journey lasted, till we reached SKALA. The darkness of the night,

night, and the mournful ſilence which there reigned, gave to their diſcourſe an impreſſion of terror with which it was difficult not to be affected. I loſt no time in diſpelling the alarms of M. DE T....., who could not help feeling ſome uneaſineſs—"The exiſtence of "theſe two monſters," ſaid I to him, "is "doubtleſs a misfortune to human nature, "but it is no leſs fortunate for us that they "are robbers well known; we have nothing "to fear from them. The conſideration "which, as robbers, their crimes have ac- "quired them with their fellows, ſecures us "from other attempts, and the aga well "knew that, by ſuch a choice, he contri- "buted powerfully to our ſafety. On the "other hand, we have not more to dread on "their part; you have taken notice of the "reſpect which they ſhew us; they will "continue it; we are under their protection; "this is a ſacred title in the eyes of almoſt "all the nations of the EAST. The Bedouin "who receives a ſtranger into his tent, be- "comes his friend and his brother; and "had he met with him on the ſandy plains, "which he has made his burning domain, "he would have ſtripped without pity the "very man towards whom he exerciſes the

"virtues

" virtues of hoſpitality, which, through a " ſingular mixture of good and bad quali- " ties, he knows how to blend with vices " the moſt pernicious to all human ſociety. " The Albanian, more warlike, but alſo more " ferocious than the Bedouin, has not the " ſame ſocial virtues; but he has enough of " the general manners of theſe countries, " to reſpect what he is charged to protect; " and I am certain that we ſhall have every " reaſon to be ſatisfied with thoſe who are " become the companions of our journey."

A magnificent proſpect is enjoyed from the convent of SKALA: on one ſide, the ſea, the neighbouring coaſts of Mount ATHOS, the numerous iſlands which render it very diverſified; on the other, it extends over the beautiful plains of MACEDONIA, where PHILIP and ALEXANDER reigned, now given up to the barbariſm of ignorance, and oppreſſed by the diſorders of robbery. But Nature who ceaſes not to embelliſh them with her gifts, ſeems alſo to invite thither inceſſantly the favours of enlightened civilization.

The foreſts, by which the monaſtery of SKALA is ſurrounded, are compoſed of pines, firs, oaks, elms, beeches, hollies, cheſnut-trees, &c. and inhabited by wild boars, ſtags, roe-

roe-bucks, bears, and birds of different ſpecies. Worm-wood is there common; the Greeks make a great uſe of it for curing fever and ſtrengthening the ſtomach, as well as germander*, which they call *kamedrin*. After having purged the patient, the phyſicians of that country make him take three times a day, morning, noon, and night, an infuſion of two drachms of germander leaves. Here is alſo found a multitude of aromatic or uſeful plants, an inquiry into which might for a long time exerciſe the zeal of a botaniſt.

While we were traverſing theſe foreſts, in the courſe of the day of the 12th, we heard ourſelves called repeatedly. It was our guides who were looking for us to inform us that a numerous body of Albanians had juſt arrived, and eſtabliſhed themſelves in the monaſtery. When we had joined them, they apprized us that theſe men were robbers by profeſſion, much dreaded in the country. They appeared to us greatly embarraſſed as to the reſolution which we were to take: to fly had at firſt appeared to them the moſt prudent courſe; but the Albanians knew of our arrival, which might have partly occaſioned their ſudden

* *Teucrium Marum.* LINN.

viſit, and they would not fail to ſet out in purſuit of us; then we ſhould all have been loſt.

On the other hand, they did not ſee leſs inconvenience in ſhewing us to people who were reckoned determined robbers, in whoſe eyes nothing was ſacred: they, moreover, aſſured us that we ought entirely to rely on them, whatever might be our determination. The inquietude of our two ſoldiers was ſincere, and they gave us on this occaſion, as well as during the continuance of our journey, unequivocal proofs of intereſt and attachment, which ſcarcely left our reflections the power of repreſenting to our mind that they themſelves were very wicked men. I did not heſitate as to the courſe that we had to take, and we preſented ourſelves to the chief of the robbers. Never did man, by the whole of his exterior announce better his odious profeſſion. A ſtature almoſt coloſſal, a corpulence which announced extraordinary ſtrength, a broad face burnt by the ſun, large eyes ſhaded by thick and long eyebrows blacker than jet, a ſtern and gloomy look, all the features and the countenance of hard heartedneſs were diſplayed on the whole perſon of this chief of robbers, who was re-

ſpectfully called *aga*. He was ſeated on a ſort of ſopha, placed in the cool air in a gallery of the convent; and ſurrounded by ſeveral of his officers: his long muſket, with a thin and flat butt like all thoſe of ALBANIA, was ſtanding at his ſide; a capital pair of piſtols was faſtened to his waiſt, and a thick chain of maſſy ſilver, ſtrengthened by ſeveral plates of the ſame metal, ſupported a large ſcymitar. I approached and repeated to him what I had ſaid to the papas of *VROUMERI*: that we were foreign phyſicians, gathering wonderful plants which the ſoil of OLYMPUS produced, and of which we compoſed remedies no leſs wonderful. I added that having frequently heard of his power, we conſidered ourſelves very happy in having an opportunity of offering our ſervices to ſo great man. Adulation is the ſnare in which fools ſuffer themſelves to be caught the moſt eaſily; there are even people of underſtanding who reſiſt not this dangerous bait. I remarked a ſhade leſs harſh on the countenance of the *aga*, and drew thence the moſt favourable omen. This man had long been troubled with an ulcer in his leg, which incommoded him greatly; he aſked me if I could cure him. I promiſed him the moſt complete cure

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in leſs than a fortnight, and gave him a ſmall bottle of GOULARD's lotion, with which I had provided myſelf.

From that moment I was inveſted with the higheſt favour, and might have played with ſucceſs the part of a protector, which ſuits the taſte of ſo many people. I paſſed the evening with the aga: he would no longer allow me to quit him, and we ſmoked and ſupped together. But the rumour of the arrival of celebrated phyſicians had ſpread among the troop of Albanians, who had taken up their quarters in a ſmall inſulated building, while the chiefs had choſen the handſomeſt quarter of the monaſtery. Each of them wiſhed to conſult, and receive advice and remedies. They diſpatched ſome of the gang as deputies to their aga, in order to prevail on him to ſend us to the place where they had aſſembled. It was agreed that M. DE T....., who paſſed for my aſſiſtant, ſhould repair thither with my little Greek, to ſerve him as an interpreter. I could not help laughing at the rude trial to which neceſſity ſubjected my fellow-traveller, and which did not appear to him pleaſant. I gave him haſtily a few inſtructions, and he ſet out; but he acquitted himſelf ſo ill in this viſit, and

betrayed ſuch embarraſſment, that the Albanians, diſſatisfied, diſmiſſed him very abruptly. In order to prevent the fatal conſequences that might enſue from the ill-humour of theſe barbarians, I haſtened to repair to the midſt of the gang, and, indeed, it did not appear aſtoniſhing that M. DE T..... had been diſconcerted. Nevertheleſs, they found in me great ſkill in phyſic, and I came away at the ſame time leaving them the higheſt opinion of my talents. The night paſſed in the greateſt tranquillity; and, far from having had ſubjects of complaint againſt this horde of robbers, we prevented the Greek monks from being too ill-uſed by them.

Very early the next morning we all quitted the convent of SKALA; the Albanians to gain the plain, and we to continue to aſcend OLYMPUS. We ſtopped at another monaſtery three leagues from the former; it bears the name of ST. DENNIS, to whom it is conſecrated. The mountain is there divided into ſeveral ſteep points, and the building is ſurrounded by thoſe towering pinnacles, almoſt entirely compoſed of rocks. The monks ſhewed us a grotto, in which is a ſmall chapel that they affirm to have been built by ST. DENNIS himſelf; they alſo ſhewed

us a hut which ſerved him as a retreat, and at the extremity of the grotto a ſpring which iſſues in a torrent from the rock, and which the ſaint forced to appear, not by a ſtroke of a wand like MOSES, but by ſtriking the rock with his cap.

The ſmall church of this convent is tolerably handſome; a large beautiful luſtre of bronze, made in GERMANY, is ſuſpended to the roof. A ſmall library of Greek and Latin books printed in the ſame country, and well choſen, occupies a chamber of the monaſtery; but their binding will long be preſerved in good condition, for no one touches them. Many other articles brought from neighbouring civilized countries, are to be found at ST. DENNIS (in Greek, *AGIOS DIONYSIOS.*) A large clock of a very common ſort is here the particular admiration of all theſe diſtricts.

Above this inſulated convent, which is ſituated in a very wild place, there are no more habitations on OLYMPUS. We ſet out on the 14th, in order to endeavour to climb up to the ſummit. We ſoon met with large heaps of ſnow. Our guides would not fatigue themſelves to no purpoſe in following us farther, they waited, with the young Greek,

at the foot of theſe frozen maſſes of ſnow, where they kindled a large fire, the cold being very ſharp at this height. We clambered as well as we could, the greateſt part of the day, clinging to the branches of the ſhrubs which became ſcarcer in proportion as we got higher, and to the projections of the rocks, which, from the effect of an eternal froſt, were frequently detached and remained in our hand. As long as we had trees and ſhrubs to ſuſtain us, we were able to aſcend; but benumbed vegetation no longer produces any at ſome diſtance from the ſummit of the mountain; this ſummit is naked and preſents only a cap of ſnow and ice, on which it is impoſſible to ſuſtain one's ſelf and walk. It is not aſtoniſhing that the Greeks have placed the abode of the gods on an eminence which mortals cannot reach.

Thus it is at leaſt that we ſaw the high, vaſt, and luminous OLYMPUS, as it was called by the ancients. It was the middle of July: the heat was extreme towards the baſe of the mountain as well as in the plain, and the maſſes of ſnow which were condenſed near its ſummit, did not appear to be on the point of melting. However an Engliſh traveller has advanced that in the month of September

tember no more ſnow is ſeen on OLYMPUS. We are tempted not to believe the aſſertion of BROWN, when we have viſited the mountain during the hotteſt part of the ſummer, and have heard the teſtimony of the Greek monks, who have ſucceeded the gods on this great elevation of the globe: they confirmed to us, indeed, what we could ſcarcely doubt, the perpetual permanence of ſnow and ice on the top of the mountain.

The reader may eaſily conceive the immenſe extent of different countries which our view embraced from the top of OLYMPUS; it ſeemed to us to touch PELION and OSSA, which form another chain of mountains; and the vale of TEMPE, of which the ancient poets have ſpoken to us as a place of delight, appeared to us a very narrow gorge, and the river PENEUS which waters it, a ſtreamlet of water ſcarcely perceptible. However, we there remarked every thing that takes place on very lofty eminences; a very ſharp cold, waters ſtill colder, enormous ſhelves of rocks heaped the one on the other, and alike threatening heaven with their point, and earth with their fall, and at our feet big clouds which, by ſeparating us from the abode of men, ſeemed to place us in the habitation

of the gods. When we had admired all theſe objects whoſe aſpect elevates the ſoul, we agreed to return to our companions, whom we had left at ſome diſtance above the laſt monaſtery; and as on theſe rugged and ſteep rocks, there neither are paths, nor tracks to follow, each of us took the way which appeared moſt convenient to him to deſcend, and moſt frequently to let ourſelves ſlide down, ſuſpended to branches. But ſuch is the habit of travelling in difficult places, that I ſoon ceaſed to hear my companions, and I reached the place of rendezvous, upwards of two hours before them.

M. DE T..... had a fever on arriving at the convent of ST. DENNIS, and it manifeſted itſelf with ſuch violence as to give me ſome inquietude.

Two days of reſt did not calm it: a monk propoſed to diſpel it in an inſtant; and as the queſtion was not to ſwallow any ſpecies of drug, I prevailed on M. DE T..... to ſuffer him to operate. He took hold of both his arms, the one after the other; and leaning his thumb ſtrongly on the artery at the wriſt, he ran it along the vein, ſtill preſſing it violently with his thumb, and not without occaſioning

caſioning pain to the patient, almoſt up to the ſhoulder. I ſhall not attempt to explain what may be the effect of this reflux of blood in the arteries; but what I atteſt, is that the fever ceaſed, and we were able the next day to deſcend to the monaſtery of SKALA.

When one arrives at the frozen ſummit of OLYMPUS, one finds many charms in the ſituation of this convent; the temperature there is mild, vegetation vigorous, and the number of animated beings greater. With the exception of bouquetins, active inhabitants of the rocks, and a few bears, there are hardly any quadrupeds to be ſeen beyond the half of the height of OLYMPUS; ſcarcely do birds paſs this limit, where the heat of the atmoſphere begins to be loſt, and where the cold increaſes in proportion as one approaches the ſummit.

On the 10th, we repaired to *KATHERINN*, where we ſent our thanks to the ever-inviſible aga; we alſo ſent him a preſent, for which, according to the manner of the Turks, he thought fit to give us, in exchange, ſome proviſions. We returned to VROUMERI on the 19th, a boat deeply laden with corn and ſoldiers belonging to the Turkiſh navy, was thence

thence departing for SALONICA. At the moment of ſtepping into her, we ſeparated from our two Albanians; they had accompanied us to the ſea ſhore, and we gave them well-deſerved marks of our ſatisfaction. The wind was contrary; it roſe with ſtrength, when we were in the middle of the gulf. The boat being overloaded ſailed ill, and we were obliged to put into a ſmall cove on the eaſt coaſt, where we ſpent the night very uncomfortably, and expoſed to the inſults of an armed rabble, who have courage only when they feel the ſuperiority of their ſtrength, and who, in battle, are the firſt to fly: ſo that we had more to undergo in this little run, than during the continuance of a journey which had been repreſented to us as very dangerous. At length we arrived in the harbour of SALONICA, on the 20th of July in the afternoon, and we repaired on board of the *MIGNONNE*, where we received the congratulations of friendſhip, ſo much the more warm as conſiderable uneaſineſs had been felt on our account.

CHAPTER

CHAPTER XL.—AND LAST.

Departure from Salonica.—Devil's *Iſlands.*—Pelagniſi.—Serakino *and* Dromi.—Saint Elias.—Scopoli.—Skiato.—Skiro—*General Obſervation on the* Archipelago.—Andros.—Naples *of* Romania.—*Arrival in* France. *Invocation to good taſte.*

A FEW days after our return from OLYMPUS, the *MIGNONNE* ſet ſail from the harbour of SALONICA. We ſaluted, as we paſſed, the ancient reſidence of the gods and its antique foreſts, which we had juſt viſited.

On going out of the gulf, the ſhip directed her courſe towards the ſouth, after having doubled the DEVIL'S Iſlands. Theſe are iſlets, or rather ſmall ſhoals, the moſt conſiderable of which bears the name of *JOURA:* they form the extremity of a chain of iſlands and rocks, placed before the entrance of the Gulf of SALONICA, and which extends to the eaſt, from the great Promontory of *VOLO*, the ancient *ŒANTIUM* of THESSALY, till it faces Mount ATHOS.

This iſlet of JOURA, and a few others, ſmaller and likewiſe uninhabited, are very near an iſland of little extent, which the Greeks call *PELAGNISI*; and our navigators, *PELERISSE*. It was formerly called *PEPARETHUS*, and was ſcarcely more important than it is in our days; it, nevertheleſs, produced oil and wine which had ſome reputation. The numerous windings of its coaſts render them as if indented, and two deep bights would form two good harbours, were not their entrance narrow and difficult.

Two ſmall iſlands, *SERAKINO* and *DROMI*, alſo afford a place of ſhelter to navigators. Between them and *SCOPOLI*, a mountain riſes in the midſt of the waters; it is called *ST. ELIAS:* the ſame name is met with in ſeveral parts of GREECE, and it is always the higheſt mountains that have there been conſecrated to the prophet.

SCOPELO, and more commonly *SCOPOLI*, the *SCOPELOS* of the ancients, is the principal of this group of iſlands, ſituated near the coaſt of GREAT GREECE. It is fertile, and would be an agreeable abode, if it ceaſed to loſe, through the vicioufneſs of its adminiſtration, the favours laviſhed on it by Nature. The wine of SCOPOLI is ſtill one of the beſt of the

the ARCHIPELAGO; but a ſtrong flavour of tar renders it unpalateable to many. Off the town, or rather the village, ſhips find a harbour which is not very ſafe; they, in general, prefer the anchorage of a great road, formed by a few ſhoals and the Iſland of SCOPOLI.

The laſt of theſe iſlands, the remains of the continent of GREECE, and conſequently the neareſt to the coaſt, is that of *SKIATO*, whoſe name has not changed. It is ſeparated from the Iſland of SCOPOLI only by a channel of about two leagues, and that which is between it and the main land is not much wider. Anchorages, rather numerous and ſafe, are to be found along the eaſt coaſt, and between the ſmall iſlets which are on the ſame ſide: to this nearly are reduced the advantages of this little iſland.

In the middle of the Iſle of *DROMI* are two or three rocks, which are called *THE BROTHERS*, and below that of *PELAGNISI* is a very ſmall iſland called *SKANGERO*.

We paſſed between the Iſlands *IPSARA* and *SKIRO*. Our navigators give to this latter the corrupted denomination of *SAINT GEORGE DE SQUIRRE*. This was the ancient kingdom of LYCODEMES, celebrated from the loves of ACHILLES

ACHILLES and DEIDAMIA. At this day it is no longer any thing but the theatre of wretchedneſs, where are ſtill to be found a few veſtiges of the magnificence of its ancient edifices. Steep rocks riſe on its ſurface; but they alſo leave, between their baſes, vallies which would be adorned with all the riches of culture, if the inhabitants were more numerous, more active, and leſs oppreſſed.

If the reader caſt his eye on the map of GREECE, he will remark, that all the great capes of the continent have before them a range of iſlands which extend into the ſea, and always in the ſame direction as the cape off which they are ſituated. Theſe are, beyond a doubt, ſummits of mountains detached from the chain, whoſe promontories are themſelves only ſhreds; and this obſervation, added to thoſe which are ſcattered in this work, does not allow us to doubt that the Greek ARCHIPELAGO, at very remote periods, formed a continent whoſe plains have been ſwallowed up, and which no longer ſhews itſelf but by lofty points, ſignals of its ancient exiſtence, and enormous pinnacles, which the eye of the obſerver may ſtill follow, and which ſerve him to

to trace the large fiſſures of this immenſe ſeparation of lands.

Andros, a conſiderable iſland, lying in front of the peninſula of *Agripo*, commonly called *Negroponte*, inclining like it towards the ſouth, cannot be miſtaken for the continuation of Cape *Doro*. It was itſelf attached to the land of *Tino*, and the latter to that of *Myconi*, where the mountains diminiſhing in height and ſolidity, have not been able to preſent a ſufficiently ſtrong reſiſtance to the impetuoſity of the waters, but have been ſubmerged. Andros, which has preſerved its ancient name, is one of the Iſlands of the Archipelago the moſt worthy of remark, according to the expreſſion of Strabo, from the fertility of its ſoil and the good quality of its productions: it wants only a good harbour and a better government.

We paſſed between this iſland and Cape *Doro*, leaving on our left the ſmall iſland of *Joura*, and, farther off, that of *Syra*, all whoſe inhabitants follow the catholic rite; and after having traverſed the long ſtring of iſlands which extends from Cape Colonna very far into the ſea, and for a knowledge of which I refer to the chart, having nothing particular

particular to ſay of them, ſince I ſaw them only at a diſtance, we caſt anchor at the head of the Gulf of *Napoli*, off the town of the ſame name, which is commonly called *Napoli di Romania*, on the coaſt of the Morea.

A fortreſs of prodigious elevation, the aſcent to the top of which is by a flight of ſteps almoſt ſtraight, the work of the Venetians, defends the town and harbour. This is one of the moſt trading towns of the Levant; it would be much more ſo, if the Turks knew how to afford protection, inſtead of ſpreading deſtruction, or multiplying obſtacles. There, as well as on all the coaſt of the Morea, many cargoes of oil are ſhipped, and olive-trees conſtitute the principal wealth of the country.

I availed myſelf of the few days which the frigate paſſed in the harbour of Napoli di Romania, in order to make a few excurſions inland: I was fond of directing them towards the ancient and celebrated Argos. Had not hiſtory tranſmitted to us the certainty of its exiſtence, we ſhould at preſent be ignorant that it had ever been built. Time and men have annihilated every veſtige of it, ſo powerful is the empire

pire of deſtruction which conſumes works the moſt ſubſtantial, and is inceſſantly changing the ſurface of the globe! And man, hurried away in his ephemeral exiſtence by the torrent of ages, acts as if he were to laſt for ever, and live eternally on the earth!

The cruiſe of the *Mignonne* in the Levant was terminated: we repaired to the Iſland of Malta, concerning which I have given ſome account in my Travels in Egypt; and, on board this ſhip, I entered the port of Toulon, on the 18th of October, 1780, at ten o'clock in the evening, after an abſence and a journey of four years.

In terminating this work, I cannot refrain from expreſſing a ſentiment which weighs on my mind, a wiſh which will be that of all men who have preſerved the love of French literature. Great models exiſt; but by what fatality do they appear conſigned to oblivion? Not being able to follow them, I take a delight in admiring them, and I have thought of paying them the ſole homage of which I was capable, by employing no other language than that which they have taught us, and by writing Travels in Greece, without any Greek expreſſion, taking care to avoid that crowd of new words, which in-

capacity engendered, as pedantic empiricism wished to make of the language of the RACINES, VOLTAIRES, FE'NE'LONS, BOSSUETS, and BUFFONS, a barbarous tongue replete with foreign words, grotesquely metamorphosed into French. In taking up my pen to write this narrative, I invoked Peace, the object of every wish, and source of every blessing: it has not been able to resist the combinations of the guardian genius of FRANCE, nor the prodigies of our arms. Eternal glory to the wisdom by which it was dictated, to the courageous talents by which it was conquered! Mankind preserve the remembrance of great benefits, and gratitude will transmit this, from age to age, in the annals of nations.

There is another benefit which letters expect from this new state of peace and happiness; and where can we better place an invocation to Good Taste than at the end of Travels in countries which were so long the theatre of it? Privileged heirs of what ancient GREECE displayed in graces and talents, LAHARPE, DELILLE, SAINT LAMBERT, BOUFFLERS, LACE'PE'DE, BERNARDIN SAINT PIERRE, SE'GUR, &c. you who have all preserved that purity of style, that colouring

louring of images, that juſtneſs of expreſſion, that urbanity truly attic, which conſtituted the glory of our literature, exert your right of inheritance, and repel the ſacrilegious efforts of Bad Taſte, which has attempted, unfortunately with too much ſucceſs, to take poſſeſſion of your honourable domain: let it diſappear for ever with its burleſque innovations; and our country ſhall ſoon be, what it was not long ſince, the abode of public proſperity, and the brilliant appanage of the fine arts.

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Gulls. Sea-birds which wage war againſt little fiſhes, i. 241.

H

HARE. The fleſh of this animal is prohibited by the law of Mahomet. The Greeks are great deſtroyers of

this ſpecies of game. Popular error, accredited alſo in the Eaſt, that there is no ſex among hares, ii. 159. 160 and foll.

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Hedge-hog. This animal is to be met with throughout the Levant, ii. 165.

Hiera. This iſland has no longer any thing remarkable; the modern Greeks call it *Agio-Strati*, ii. 348. 349.

Horſes. They have degenerated in the Iſland of Candia, i. 404. 405.

Hoſpitals. See *Leproſy.*

Hydrophobia or *madneſs.* It makes its appearance but ſeldom, indeed, in the Iſland of Candia. Specific employed againſt that terrible diſorder, i. 420. 421 and foll.

I

IMBROS. This ſmall iſland of the Archipelago is at the preſent day called *Lembro*, ii. 350.

Ipſara, an iſland of the Archipelago, ii. 397.

Iſland. The *White Iſland* and the *Black Iſland.* They were ſuddenly produced from the effect of a ſubterraneous volcano in the ſea of the Archipelago. Their growth viſible to the eye, i. 292. 293 and foll. Thoſe two iſlands finiſh by forming a junction, and by making but one, 297. 298. An inquiſitive party viſit the new iſland. Suffocating heat which ſeizes them, 303, 304 and foll.

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Itch. The Greeks cure it with juniper-oil, ii. 50.

J

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Jays. Thoſe birds, in the iſlands of the Archipelago, make great havock. The Sciots amuſe themſelves by teaching them to talk, ii. 176. 177.

John, St. This ſaint is as much revered among the Greeks of the Archipelago as in our countries. Superſtitious practice to which the Greek girls have recourſe on the day of his feſtival, under the name of *ſecret water*, ii. 120. 121. This feſtival is remarkable, in all countries, on account of the ſtriking changes which happen in the atmoſphere, 123 and foll.

Joura. This is the principal of the Devil's Iſlands in the Archipelago, ii. 395. 396

Junipers. Theſe tall ſhrubs yield no gum in the Iſland of Argentiera. The Greeks make uſe of the oil which they draw from the ſtem and branches for the cure of the itch, ii. 50.

K

KAMEDRON. This is the germander, a tree, an infuſion of whoſe leaves ſerves for curing fevers and ſtrengthening the ſtomach ii. 384.

Kammeni, or *Burnt Iſland*. A ſmall iſland, called in antiquity *Hiera*, ſacred. It is formed of calcined ſubſtances. Two ſorts of Kammeni are diſtinguiſhed, i. 288. 289 and foll. After a violent ſhock of an earthquake, it appears quite reſplendent with burning ſtones. Dreadful noiſe which is heard in this iſland, 298. 299 and foll. The Little Kammeni is deſtitute of vegetable earth. The Great Kammeni produces a few herbs, 309.

Katherinn. A large village or town, which ſerves as a reſidence to an Albanian prince, ii. 379.

Kerry. This Frenchman becomes conſul at Canea, i. 327.

Kupros, a ſhrub known to botaniſts by the name of *Lawſonia inermis*, or thornleſs Egyptian privet. The women dye their nails with its flowers. This cuſtom is general in Turkey, i. 39. 40 and foll.

L

LADANUM, known among the ancients under the name of *ciſtus*. Goats formerly collected this reſinous ſubſtance. New proceedings which are at this day employed for gathering it, i. 402 and foll.

Larnica. The town of this name is fallen from its ancient ſplendour. An unhealthful abode. The heat there is ſuffocating. Immenſe ciſterns, formerly deſtined for preſerving the oil which was drawn from foreſts of olive-trees, i. 84. 85 and foll.

Lemnos. Nature has done every thing for the embelliſhment of this celebrated iſland, and yet it is in a wretched ſtate under the tyrannic yoke of the Muſſulmans, ii. 347.

Lentiſk. This ſhrub is very common on the ſurface of Argentiera. The Greeks of ſome iſlands burn no other wood.

wood. From its fruits is expreſſed an oil good for burning, ii. 54. The women of the Eaſt make great uſe of a gum which is drawn from it for preſerving the teeth and making the breath ſweet. Details reſpecting this gum, 124.

Leproſy. Still exerciſes the greateſt ravages in the Iſland of Cyprus, i. 373. 374. Inſolence of the Muſſulman lepers in regard to chriſtians. Hideous ſpectacles afforded by the hoſpitals for lepers, 375. 376. This diſorder was alſo brought into the Iſland of Candia by the cruſaders, 396.

Lero. A poor iſland, covered with high mountains which contain minerals, i. 248.

Limaſſol, formerly Nemoſia. Is no longer any thing but a miſerable town full of ruins. Its harbour, however, is ſtill pretty much frequented, i. 87. 88.

M

MACEDONIA. The houſes are very well built in that country. The aſpect of the villages there is agreeable. The dogs keep a good watch around them, ii. 373, 374 and foll.

Macri (Gulf of). It affords excellent havens to ſhipping, i. 122. 123.

Madder. Plant with which cottons, in the Iſland of Cyprus, are dyed red. Precautions which ought to be obſerved when a veſſel takes in madder, i. 67. 68.

Madneſs.—See *Hydrophobia.*

Marcopoli. Evangelical modeſty of that Greek prieſt. He was very well informed, and reſpected both by the Turks and Greeks, ii. 24. 25.

Marriage. The Greek women, before their marriage, are obliged to furniſh evident proofs of their virtue, ii. 118. 119. The Greeks marry young. Before this ceremony, the young girl is conducted to the bath. Dances announce the retinue which accompanies the new couple to church, 130. 131. The young couple chooſe a godfather and godmother. A ſingular ceremony which is practiſed for aſcertaining the virtue of the bride, 133. 134 and foll

Marſeilles. Striking picture of this town, formerly ſo commercial, i. 18. 19. Cauſe of our loſſes, 20. 21 and foll. This town carries on a trade with Canea, 329.

Maſtic, or gum, drawn from the *lentiſk.*—*See* that word.

Melanarus, a fiſh called *oblade* on our coaſts of the Mediterranean, i. 255.—*See* too *Plate V. fig.* 1.

Merchandiſe (Liſt of articles of) which enter into the trade of the Archipelago.—*See* the word *Trade.*

Mézerai. This hiſtorian ſpeaks of a great irruption of graſshoppers in the South of France, i. 66.

Milo (Iſland of) —*See* too the article *Argentiera.*—Fires long ſince kindled there conſume the bowels of the earth. The vegetable earth there is, nevertheleſs, very productive. Population has ſingularly diminiſhed in this iſland, ii. 221. 222. Almoſt all the inhabitants of this iſland have their legs ſwelled, owing to peſtilential miaſmata. Strangers dread to make there even a momentary ſtay. The town of Milo at this day preſents the ſpectacle of deſolation, 223. 224. There, is perceived an aperture in the earth, whence iſſued vapours very deſtructive. It has been ſtopped up: but theſe vapours have found other iſſues, 229. Vapour-baths produced by the general conflagration of the interior of the iſland. Hippocrates formerly ſent patients thither.

The

The ſulphur which is drawn from this iſland is reckoned to be of the beſt quality, 232. Under a wiſe adminiſtration, it might ceaſe to be an unhealthful abode, 234. 235. A more particular deſcription of the Iſland of Milo. The harbour affords excellent anchorage, 237. This iſland frequently experiences earthquakes, 247. 248. Frightful phenomena which are there ſeen, 249. 250 and foll.

Mineralogy. The mines of Argentiera, formerly worked, are at this day abandoned. They never were very productive. The Ruſſians attempted to work them anew, ii. 34. 35. Properties of an argillaceous ſubſtance called *Cimolian earth.* No work of mineralogy makes mention of it. The Author has met with it no where. It is a natural ſoap, 37. 38 and foll. This earth is very fit for taking out greaſe ſpots. The Romans were acquainted with this mineralogical ſubſtance, ſince Pliny ſpeaks of it, 39. 40 and foll. Rock alum is to be found at Milo, in natural excavations. It there ſhews itſelf in efflorescence. Salt is made of it, 232. 233 and foll.

Mines of *Calamo*, i. 246. 247. Admirable ſtalactites which are found in the convent of Catholicos, 358.

Mitylene. This iſland, ſometimes called Metelin, was the country of Pittacus. The poſition of Mitylene renders the poſſeſſion of it very important. ii. 344. 345 and foll.

Monks, Greek.—See the word *Caloyers.*

Morea (The). On all the coaſt of this peninſula, a great trade is carried on in oil, ii. 400.

Mormyrus, a fiſh whoſe fleſh does not correſpond with the beauty of its exterior, i. 254. 255.

Mulberry-trees. There are ſmall woods of them in the Iſland of Cyprus, i. 51.

Mullets. In ſummer, a great many of theſe fiſhes are taken in the Archipelago, i. 253. 254.

Mullet (*Bearded*). This fiſh is very ſcarce in the ſea of the Archipelago. Cruel ſufferings to which the Romans, through luxury, put this fiſh, which produces the moſt beautiful ſhades, ii. 204. 205.

Murad Bey. Character of this chief of the Mamalûks. His bravery, i. 24. 25.

Muræna, or ſea-ſerpent. Notes on this fiſh, i. 168. 169 and foll.—*See* too *Plate IV. fig.* 1.—Its dimenſions, 172. 173. Theſe fiſhes are common in the Archipelago, 174. 175.

Myconi. This iſland has a harbour much frequented by navigators. The Myconites neglect the culture of their lands, in order to give themſelves up to trade. Every thing is parched up in their fields. Their bad reputation in antiquity, ii. 303. 304 and foll.

Myrtles. Grow ſpontaneouſly in the Iſland of Candia, and form the hedges of the country, i. 391.

N

NANFIO (Iſland of). Its firſt name, i. 277, 278. It was formerly covered with foreſts, 279. Red partridges are there very common. Great wretchedneſs in that iſland, 280. 281.

Napoli di Romania. It has a fortreſs of prodigious elevation, the work of the Venetians. it is built near the ſite of ancient Argos, ii. 400.

Naxia. The Author points out this famous iſland as likely to ſerve as an emporium to the French traders in the Archilpelago. It is the largeſt of the Cyclades. The Greeks

Greeks of the preſent day are there ſtill free like their anceſtors. Beauty of this iſland, ii. 280, 281. The principal inhabitants are deſcended from ancient families of France, Spain, and Italy, and are renowned for their affability and politeneſs. The coaſts of their iſland afford good places of ſhelter, 282. 283.

Nicaria. This ſmall iſland has no harbours. Scanty population. Ungrateful ſoil, ii. 303.

Nicoſia. Capital of the Iſland of Cyprus. The palaces and the church of this town. Its agreeable ſituation, i. 84.

Niebuhr, a Daniſh traveller. His account reſpecting graſshoppers, i. 63. 64.

Nightingale. This bird directs its route towards the ſouth, and lives during the winter in Lower Egypt. It does not breed there, and is ſilent during its ſtay in that climate, which is foreign to it, ii. 188. 189.

Nio. An iſland celebrated by the death of Homer. Hoſpitable character of the inhabitants. Kindneſs of the women. The iſland is fertile in corn, i. 281. 282. The dreſs of the women is repugnant to decency, 285. 286. Diſſertation on the dreſs of the Turkiſh women, 286. 287.

Niſari (Iſland of). Its fabulous origin, i. 208. 209. Shoals near this iſland, 209. 210.

O

OBSEQUIES (Funeral). Death among the Greeks always inſpires ſentiments of unfeigned grief. Relations frequently viſit the grave, and there make repeated offerings, ii. 149. 150 and foll. They invoke the dead in a loud voice. The dead are carried to the grave with

with their face uncovered, and in their richeſt garments, 152. 153 and foll.

Oil, good for burning. The Greeks of Argentiera draw it from the lentiſk, and ſeveral iſlands burn no other wood but that of this ſhrub, ii. 54.

Olive-trees. They are far leſs common in the Iſland of Cyprus than in paſt times. The ſoil is very favourable to this tree, i. 50. 51. No ſoil is more favourable to it than the Iſland of Candia. The Greeks know not how to derive from it the advantage which we do, 398. Theſe trees were conſumed by the flames in the Iſland of Argentiera, during the wars between the Venetians and the Turks, ii. 29. 30. Olive-oil is ſometimes introduced into curative methods, 143. 144.

Olivier. This naturaliſt and traveller aſſerts that *Cimolian earth* is only a ſlow and gradual decompoſition of porphyries, occaſioned by ſubterraneous fires, ii. 41. 42.

Olympus. This mountain, ſo celebrated, is occupied by Albanian robbers. Their hatred is terrible againſt the inhabitants of Salonica, ii. 364. The Author, nevertheleſs, travels thither diſguiſed as a phyſician, 365. 366 and foll. He arrives at the foot of this mountain. A prieſt throws great difficulties in his way, 375. 376 and foll. Vegetation is there in a moſt flouriſhing ſtate. Storks are there very common. Veneration which is ſtill entertained for theſe birds, 377. 378. Having reached a certain height, the Author ſees a convent of Greek monks. Above this inſulated convent there are no more habitations on Olympus, 389. Sharp cold which he there experiences. The ſummit is covered with ſnow and ice, and it is impoſſible to reach it, *ib.* and 390. Magnificent proſpect which is to be viewed from the top of this mountain. The Author's fellow-traveller falls ill. He is cured by a monk, 392. 393.

Olympus (Little). A charming mountain of the Iſland of Cyprus, i. 79. 80.

Onions. This legume cauſes no ſhedding of tears in Egypt, as it does in Europe. It is alſo very mild in the environs of Cnidus, i. 191, 192.

Orange-trees. Theſe charming ſhrubs form bowers round the habitations of the Iſland of Cyprus. Delightful picture which the Author draws of theſe odoriferous bowers, i. 60.

Orfano. This gulf was known among the ancients under the name of *Sinus Strymonicus*, ii. 354.

Origany. Employed as a remedy by the Greeks of the iſlands of the Archipelago, ii. 145.

P

PAINT. In the iſlands of the Archipelago, it is compoſed of the bulbs of an iris. Uſe which is made of this compoſition. The face of the women is not affected by it, ii. 125. 126.

Paillouri. A cape which, with Cape Drepano, forms the Gulf of Caſſandra, ii. 355.

Palæo-Caſtro. This is the name which the modern Greeks give to all ancient towns. A dreadful fright with which the inhabitants of one of theſe towns are ſeized on the approach of two veſſels, i. 427.

Paphos. Formerly the abode of delight, now preſents the aſpect of wretchedneſs, i. 88. 89.

Paros. This celebrated iſland has had ſeveral names. Its ancient ſplendour. It gave birth to the moſt illuſtrious ſtatuaries in the world, ii. 263. 264 and foll. A ſmall town has replaced the ancient city of Paros. The

The coaſt of this iſland preſents good anchorages; the Ruſſians made ſome ſtay here, 266. 267 and foll.

Partridge. In the iſlands of the Archipelago this bird with difficulty endures confinement. Bartavelle, or red partridge, of a ſingular ſpecies, whoſe bill grows long, and bends inward, i. 161. 162. Theſe birds are ſo common in the Iſland of Nanſio, that the inhabitants are obliged to deſtroy a great part of their eggs, 279. 280. Partridges, eſpecially red ones, are in great numbers in the Iſlands of the Archipelago, *ib.* It is as difficult to get at them as at hares. The berries of the lentiſk occaſion their fleſh to contract a bitter flavour. The gray partridge is not known in the Eaſt, ii. 270. 271. There is a particular ſpecies of partridge in the Eaſt, which appears there only for a few days, *ib.*

Patmos (Iſland of). Arid rocks and numerous capes. It is celebrated from the exile of St. John. Error reſpecting a convent of monks of this iſland, ii. 296. 297.

Patriarch (The), is appointed by the Grand Signior. This eminent place is an object of ſpeculation, i. 351. 352. Humiliating manner in which he is appointed, *ib.* Tranſlation of a firman for the nomination of a Greek biſhop, 355. 356.

Pauw. The authority of that traveller combated by the Author of this work, i. 9. 10. 11. 14.

Pedicus. A river of the Iſland of Cyprus, which rolls down in its waters red jaſper, i. 47.

Pelagniſi. An iſlet of the Archipelago, ii. 396.

Perch. Etymology of the name of that fiſh. The ancients conſidered it as unwholeſome food. It is aſſerted that there are none in the Ocean, ii. 199. 200.

Pheaſants. During the winter theſe birds are ſometimes ſeen in the moſt northern iſlands of the Archipelago: captains of ſhips lay in a ſtock of them, ii. 173. 174.

Phyſic. The thermal waters of Argentiera are, among the Greeks, reckoned to poſſeſs great virtues. The Author thinks that partial applications of theſe waters on the parts affected, would be more efficacious than total immerſion, ii. 44. 45 and foll. Moſt of the diſorders by which our flocks are attacked, are unknown in the Levant. The ſhepherds themſelves are the phyſicians of their flocks, 69. 70. In the Greek iſlands, all phyſic is founded only on ridiculous practices. The women are the phyſicians the moſt in faſhion, 141. 142 and foll. They have hereditary recipes in certain families, 145 and foll. Manner in which the Turks dreſs wounds, 146 and foll. Character of one of theſe quack-doctors, 261. 262.

Plague (The). Frequently ravages the Iſland of Rhodes. Peſtiferous perſons penetrate, with as much liberty as a healthy man, into the different countries of the Ottoman empire. Singular preſervative indicated to the author by ſome monks, i. 155. 156. Courage is the beſt preſervative, 218. The ſmall-pox is the forerunner of that terrible ſcourge, and almoſt always precedes it, 219. For want of care, the Turks have ſuffered the plague to find its way to Chio, ii. 320. Almoſt every year the plague deſolates Smyrna. Stupid reſignation of the Turks who might oppoſe the ravages of that deſtructive diſorder, 334, 335. A perſon may ſecure himſelf from it by holding no communication with thoſe who are infected by it, 336. 337. The conſtitution is of great weight in this diſorder. Detail on the ſubject of its commencement, its progreſs, and its end, 338. 339 and foll.

Plovers (*Golden*). Are very common in the Iſland of Candia, i. 419.

Policandro (Iſland of). The inhabitants of this iſland pickle in vinegar turtles which they kill, ii. 183. This is the ancient Pholegandros: its ſoil is extremely rugged. Scanty population. The vine grows there in the midſt of ſtones. It is the rendezvous of birds of paſſage, 257. 258.

Polivo (Iſland of). The Venetians deſtroyed by fire the olive-trees with which it was covered. It is ſeparated only by a little channel from the Iſland of Argentiera. It might be cultivated, and the rearing of bees be there attended to, ii. 72. 73. It might alſo furniſh commercial ſpeculations, and a perſon would there lead a pleaſant and quiet life, *ib.*

Praſe. Near this little haven, are ſeen grottoes dug in the rock. The environs furniſh a great quantity of wild artichokes, good to be eaten, ii. 52. 53.

Pregoulina, mother of a hoſpodar of Moldavia. She aſſures the Author that women felt much leſs than men the malignant influence of a reſidence in Milo, ii. 225. 226.

Prieſts (Greek). They go through their religious ceremony with precipitation and irreverence. Monotony of their ſinging, i. 349. 350 and foll. They debaſe their character by the moſt greedy cupidity, 352 and foll.

Pyrgos, is the moſt agreeable place in the Iſland of Santorin. Deſcription of this little town, i. 314. 315.

Q

QUAILS. Common at Alexandria, i. 33. 34 and foll. They never ſtop in the Iſland of Rhodes, 165. The period of their paſſage varies according to the winds which prevail. They follow a uniform route from which they ſeldom deviate. They are ſalted in the Greek Iſlands, 166. 172. 173.

R

RATS. They multiply in the Iſland of Rhodes. Manner in which veſſels get rid of them, i. 141. 142.

Red-breaſt. It arrives in the Levant in the month of October. The Greeks wage war on it, ii. 189.

Retimo. A part of the population of that town has paſſed to Canea. It was formerly a place famous for its oil, i. 426.

Rhodes. An Iſland of Aſia. Its form, i. 135. City of that name, capital of the iſland formerly inhabited by the Knights of St. John of Jeruſalem, 135. 136 and foll. Its different harbours are becoming obſtructed from day to day, 139 and foll. Deſcription of the famous coloſſus, 143. 144 and foll. The ſun never paſſes a ſingle day without ſhewing itſelf there, 147. Mild temperature of the climate, *ib.* and foll. Origin of the name of Rhodes, 149. Its inhabitants are navigators. Philoſophical reflections on the beautiful edifices which embelliſhed that iſland, 153. 154. The plague frequently deſolates it. Preſervative againſt that ſcourge, 155. 156. Turks and Greeks people this country, 156. 157. Of what importance Rhodes may become. Deſcription of its different harbours, 158. 159. Territorial reſources. Beauty of the ſoil, 160. 161. Taſte of the Rhodians for gardens. Fiſh is very plentiful on the coaſt of Rhodes, 166.

Robbers. Character of the Albanian robbers, ii. 380. 381.

Rue. This plant grows in abundance on the uncultivated lands of the large iſlands. The Greeks make uſe of it as an amulet, ii. 147. 148.

S

SAFFRON. It grows naturally on the mountains of the Iſland of Argentiera. It is a ſmall branch of commerce for that miſerable country. An egg ſerves as a weight for ſelling the valuable flower of the ſaffron, ii. 54. 55 and foll.

Salamis. A kingdom founded by Teucer in the Iſland of Cyprus, i. 83. 84.

Salonica. This town is built on the ſite of *Therma.* It is one of the largeſt cities of Turkey. Narrow and unpaved ſtreets, ii. 357. 358. Fires are there rather frequent. This city is extremely ill defended by very bad ramparts. It is the emporium of a conſiderable trade. It is not a very wholeſome place of reſidence, 513.

Salterns, formed in the Iſle of Cyprus in a great lake. They do not at this day yield what they yielded formerly. Great trade which the Venetians formerly carried on in ſalt, i. 48. 49.

Samos (Iſland of). The ancients had given this name to three different iſlands. The Samians are the mildeſt and moſt witty of the Greeks. It is one of the iſlands the moſt favoured by Nature, ii. 299. 300 and foll. It is ſeparated from the continent only by a channel half a league in length, 302 and foll.

Samothrace. This celebrated iſland has loſt all its advantages, ii. 350.

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Sargus. This is one of the moſt common fiſhes in the ſea of the Archipelago. Its fleſh is hard and tough. The divers of the Iſle of Symi carry on a continual war againſt it, ii. 201. 202.

Savary. This traveller embelliſhes things at the expenſe of truth, i. 324. Captivating ſtyle of this writer. His lively imagination and the excellent qualities of his heart, 325. 326 and foll.

Scaro (Caſtle of). Frightful ſituation of this caſtle which appears ſuſpended above horrible precipices, i. 315.

Scarpanto (Iſland of).—*See* the article *Santa Catherina.*

Scarus. This fiſh, famous in antiquity, lives in numerous ſocieties. It is aſſerted that theſe ſocieties have a chief. When a ſcarus bites at the hook, all the others ſurround the captive, ii. 198. 199.

Scopelo. This is the principal iſland of a group ſituated near Greece. It produces one of the beſt wines of the Archipelago, ii. 396.

Serakino, a very ſmall iſland of the Archipelago, affords an anchorage to navigators, ii. 396.

Serpents, have multiplied in the Iſland of Cyprus, as well as miſchievous inſects, i. 94. Serpents were formerly very common in the Iſland of Argentiera, ii. 35 The Greeks treat bites of ſerpents by great inciſions on the wound, 148. They alſo treat them with cataplaſms of emollient plants, 251. 252.

Serpent (Sea), a fiſh.—*See* the article *Muræna.*

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Sifour. From this ſteep village of Milo, is diſcovered the moſt beautiful horizon. Great ruins are perceived in the environs of the village. There, is met with a ſpring of water almoſt luke-warm, ii. 243. 244. 245 and foll. Ridiculous ſuperſtition of old women of this village in regard to a child bitten by a viper, 251. 252.

Sikino, produces a great many vines. The population there is very conſiderable. A ſhoal dreaded by ſeamen, ii. 258. 259.

Siphanto (Iſland of). It was formerly very flouriſhing. The morals of its inhabitants diſcredited in antiquity. Mines of gold and ſilver. Beautiful marble. An agreeable and cheerful iſland. Mild and hoſpitable character of the Greeks who inhabit this iſland, ii. 259. 260 and foll.

Skala. A convent of Greek monks, built on Mount Olympus. This convent is ſurrounded by foreſts, ii. 383.

Skangero. A very ſmall Iſland of the Archipelago, ii. 397.

Skatari, a fiſh of the Archipelago. Its exterior conformation, ii. 256. 257 and foll.—*See* too *Plate V.* fig. 2.

Skiato. A ſmall iſland of the Archipelago, which is ſeparated from Scopoli only by a channel two leagues in width, ii. 397.

Skiro, an iſland celebrated from the amours of Achilles and Deidamia. It is no longer at this day any thing but the theatre of wretchedneſs, ii. 397. 398.

Smyrna. This is a city of the Levant extremely intereſting. The quarter of the Europeans there reſembles a town of Europe. The Turks there are very mild. Great induſtry of the Greeks. State of commerce of the French in this ſea-port of the Levant, 493. 494.

Beautiful.

Beautiful climate. Delightful position. Violent earthquakes, *ib.* and foll.

Soda. The sandy soil of Cape Cromachiti in Cyprus, is covered with this plant, i. 67.

Soliman. This Sultan of the Turks immortalized himself by his conduct full of greatness of soul in regard to Villiers de l'Ile-Adam, grand-master of Rhodes, i. 136. 137.

Sphachia. A mountain of the Island of Candia. The Greeks of this mountain speak their language more purely than their other countrymen. They are good warriors and very dexterous in shooting with a bow. Turkish travellers dread them exceedingly, ii. 427. 428.

Spider (Scorpion). There is a frightful, terrible one in the Island of Cyprus. Curious discussion relative to this insect, i. 94. 95. and foll. Description, 98. 99 and foll.—*See* too *Plate III.*

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Syra, a ſmall iſland of the Greek Archipelago, all whoſe inhabitants follow the catholic rite, ii. 399.

T

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Tarantula. This ſpecies of ſpider is reckoned to be very venomous in the Iſland of Candia. Deſcription of that inſect, i. 416. 417.

Taſſo. This iſland was famous on account of its gold mines. Marble is found there as much eſteemed as that of Paros. It was very fertile. It produces fine timber for ſhip-building, ii. 351. 352. and foll.

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Thruſhes. Theſe birds are very common in the iſlands of the Archipelago, and during the winter, they come into the houſes in order to ſhelter themſelves from the cold, ii. 178. 179.

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Trade. Flouriſhing ſtate of the French trade to the Levant before the year 1789, i. 16. 17. The French government ought to uſe its efforts in order to revive it in the East.

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U

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V

VAIVODE. Thus, in certain iſlands of the Archipelago, is called the chief who commands the Greeks, ii. 26. 27. *Verdac* and *Verdari*, names of a little river and of a ſmall town of Theſſaly, ii. 362.

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Vrummeri, a charming village near Mount Olympus, ii 372.

W

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Weazel. The Greeks, as well as the Turks, have a reſpect for this pretty animal, ii. 164. 165.

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Worm (Silk). Diſſertation on this valuable inſect. The ancients were not acquainted with it, i. 224. 225.

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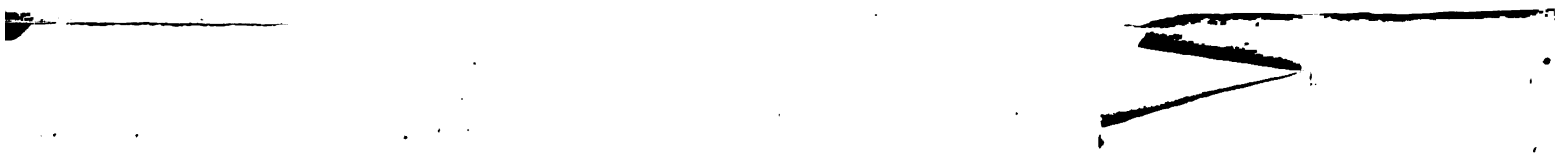

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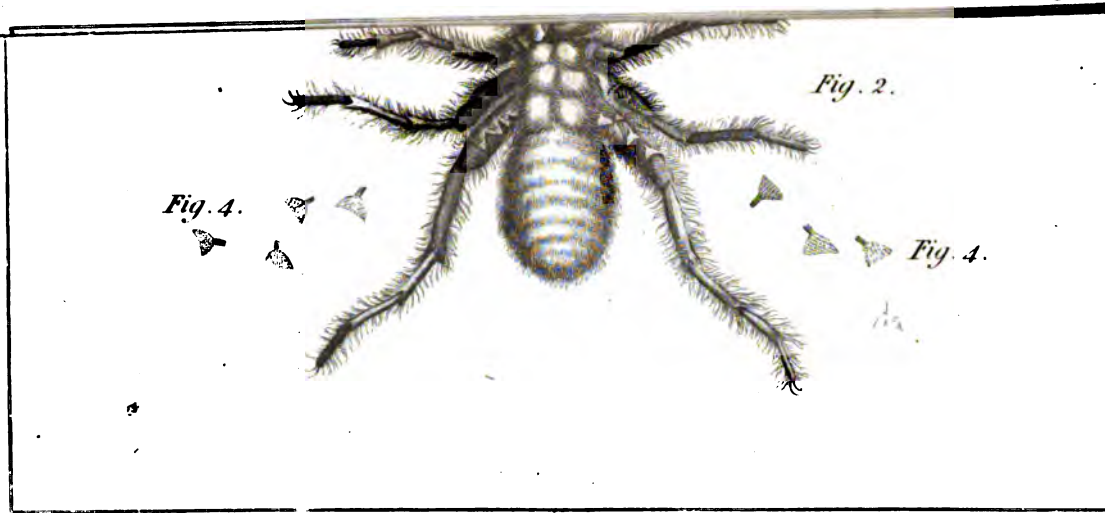
Pl. III.

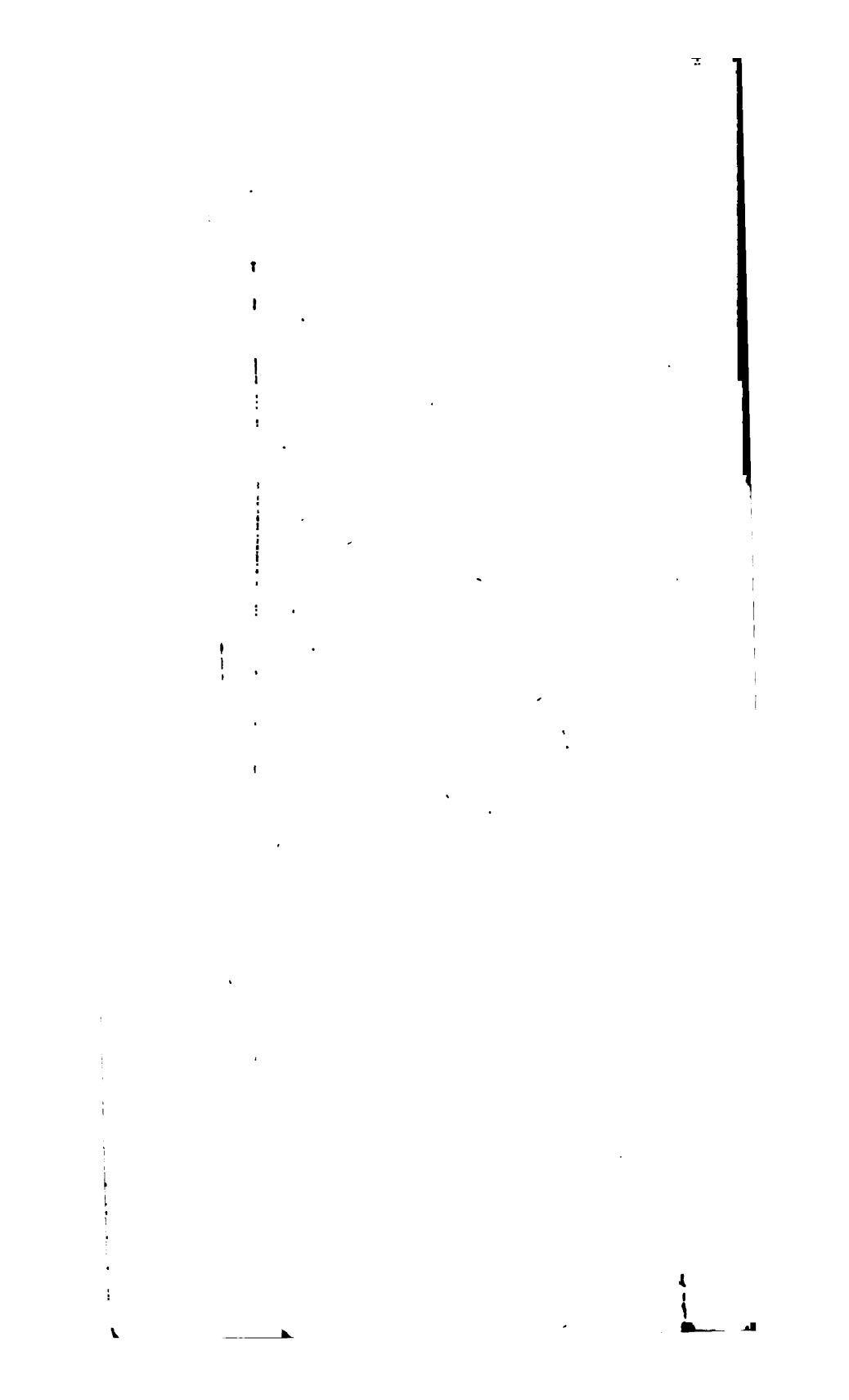


Marechal del.

W. Cooke sculp.

Scorpion-spider, or Galeode aranéoide.

Fig. 1. The Spider seen on its Belly.
Fig. 2. The Spider seen on its Back.
Fig. 3. Nipper of the Jaw, magnified.
Fig. 4. Appendices of the posterior Thighs.



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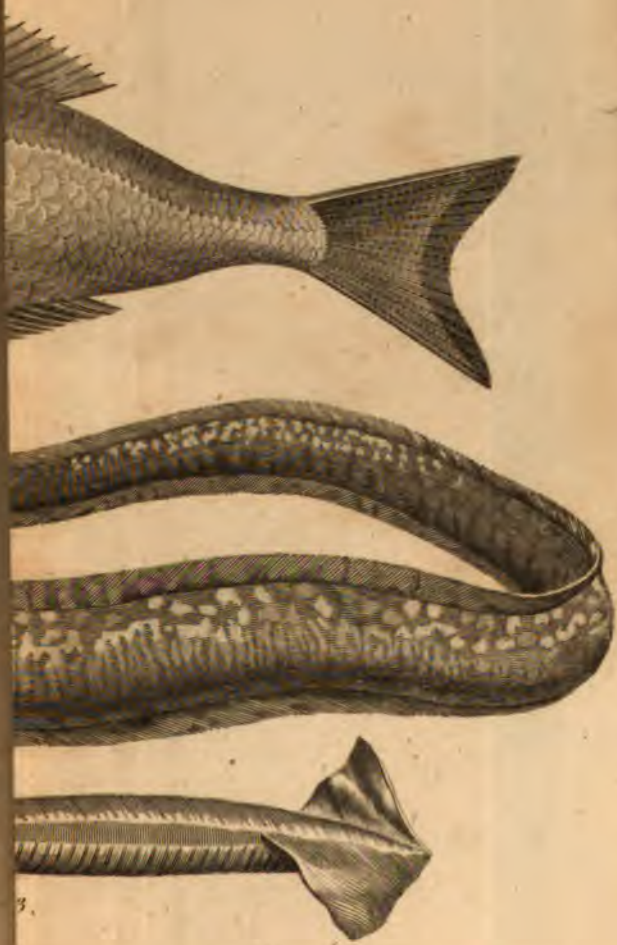
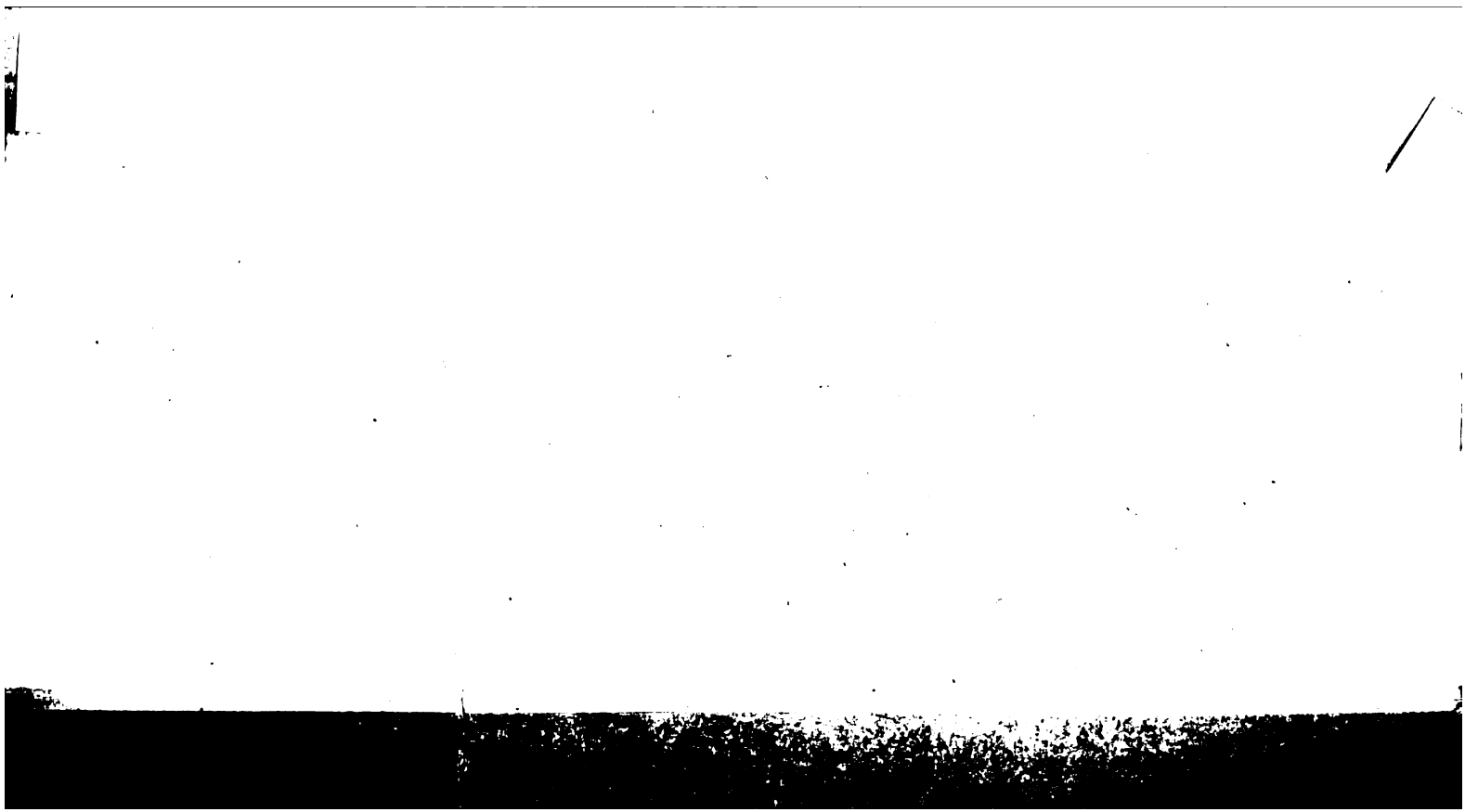
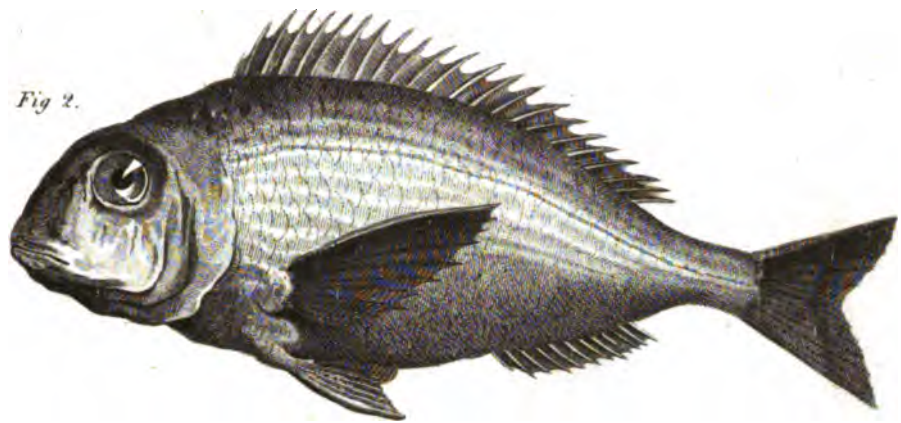


W. Cooke sculp.

i. Fig. 3. Calamary.



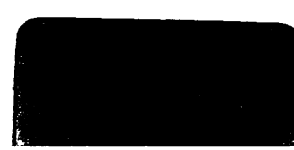


Maréchal del. Neagle sculp

Fig 1. Melanurus. Fig 2. Skalari. Fig 3. Cabrilla ?

Pl. VI.

W. Cooke sculp.

L'Argentiera.

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